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James D. Eaton

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American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Jan.11,1890.

Rev.N.G.Clark,D.D.

My dear Sir:-

You have placed me in your debt by letters dated Nov.30,Dec.18, 30 and 31,-with a postscript dated Jan.2nd. The tidings conveyed thereby have caused us to feel great joy and thankfulness. We are sure that the Training School will soon "materialize" in a useful and successful institution; and it seems specially providential,-if such a phrase be allowable,-that Bro.Whaling, of El Paso,felt drawn to offer himself for this work,just as we needed another man. Your suggestion that he spend some months in this city,studying the language an people,before taking charge of a station,commends itself very heartily to my judgment. Further I may be permitted to say that if after all, the plan for a union school should fail,and it be established in this city,perhaps Bro. Whaling would be the man to take charge of it,with such help as I might be able to give him on the material side,in the care of the students,-in their lodging, feeding etc. He is an enthsiastic student and an eloquent preacher,and would probably succeed in inspiring his students with something of his own ardor. Then Mr.Wright could remain where he is,and branch out into the Indian work,as we have desired. I think he is better adapted to this,perhaps,than Mr.Whaling, who has not had so much experience in "roughing it",as had Mr.Wright while engaged in the Sunday School Union work some years ago.

Thank you for securing the appopiation of $300 silver for Bro.Crawford's Mexican teacher.

Miss Keyes's story is short and sad. On thanksgiving Day she had a misunderstanding with Mrs. Kilgore,who did not know so well as Mrs.Eaton how to manage with her,and threatened to leave forthwith. The ruffled spirits,however,were calmed by the mediation of our Mission,and affairs ran smoothly again. But suddenly a new and formidable difficulty arose. Miss K. discovered a swelling in one of her breasts, which Dr. Paschal pronounced a fibrous tumor, and it must be cut out at once. She was unwilling to undergo the operation so far from home, and left on a few days' notice for the East, or Chicago, borrowing the money for the journey of the Methodists, who are unwilling to pay her expenses either way, because she was engaged privately by Mr. Kilgore, and not commissioned by any Society. Her own father, and probably other friends, have all along supposed that she was still working under the direction of our Board. The Doctor says that the tumor may prove to be malignant, but that her life may even then be prolonged one or two years. We feel very sorry for her.

My inquiry under date of Sept. 27th, referred to in your last, was answered by you at the time with the statement that it was preferred to leave such matters to the judgment of the Station or Mission. Mr. and Mrs. Wright, Mr. Case, who is here temporarily as you know, and my wife and I have held a consultation over the matter, and decided that it would be wise to build three upper story rooms over some which exist about in the center of the Mission premises, in order to furnish needed accommodations for our growing Boarding School, and at the same time provide upper story rooms for the missionaries to sleep in, especially in the summer. We have already ten boarders, nine of whom sleep in one room. Miss Dunning could take an upstairs chamber, with great benefit to her health, and give her room to more pupils. These upper rooms do not affect the street front, nor occupy an additional foot of ground to interfere with future building operations. If built at once, we could receive the Whalings for a few months, by a little crowding. The expense would probably be somewhat more than we can realize on the unexpired lease of our residence on the hill, which we left to care for the boarders that offered. But we apply for no grant now, and if my family remains in this house, as it probably will, if the Tr. School is put on the Border, we shall not expect to make application, but will meet the balance from private funds. But if two families should be located in this city, and so additional quarters be needed, the matter could be otherwise adjusted.

We are having excellent union meetings this week, with Mr. Kilgore's preacher.

Sincerely Yours,

James D. Eaton

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Jan.20,1890.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

Your letter of the 11th inst.,addressed to Mr.Wright,seems to call for a word of explanation regarding the offer of a thousand dollars for work amongst the Indians. The allusions made by one and another of us,have all been prompted by the following letter of the Rev.Edwin C.Holman,pastor of the Centre Church, Haverhill,Mass.,directed to myself under date of October 3rd,1889:"Mr.Algernon P.Nichols,a member of my church,has recently read that Lieut.Schwatka while conducting explorations in Chihuahua County,had discovered descendants of the primitive Cliff Dwellers. Mr.Nichols is very anxious to have a mission established to reach these people. He offers one thousand dollars for this purpose. If the plan is feasible,more money can be raised. In an interview with Mr.Langdon S. Ward,Treasurer of the A.B.C.F.M.,he referred me to you. Do you regard the scheme as practical? If so,what steps had best be taken in the matter? Do you know of any one that could carry on such a work? I wrote you about three weeks ago,but having received no answer,I write again."

The former letter never reached me;but immediately upon the receipt of this one,(which went first to Mexico City),I sent it on the rounds of the Stations, to get the opinions of my brethren,and meanwhile addressed a full letter to Mr. Holman,expressive of our deep interest in the indigenous tribes of the sierra region,and our hope that the way might be opened soon for the commencement of Gospel work amongst them. Last week I wrote again to Mr.H.,reporting that we were all in favor of undertaking the work proposed,but that we were at present wrestling with the problem of a Training School,with the hope,however,of being able to do for the Indians,as the Board was likely to grant us the reinforcement asked for,of one man ,to enable us to continue work begun in the sierras. Further,I asked whether Mr.Nichols would be able to entertain the proposal that he accompany a delegation from this Mission on a tour of inquiry through the mountain region, for at least a part of the way;, say, in the month of April, or of October. We do not know whether such an expedition can be arranged for at present; but it seems indispensable that it be undertaken, before any plans be adopted in behalf of the Indians. If you could secure the interview with Mr. N. which is suggested in your last to Mr. Wright, considerable light might be thrown upon the subject.

One word more. Should Mr. Whaling be appointed, whatever be the class of work assigned to him, he ought not, in the judgment of Messrs. Case, Wright and myself, be stationed at El Paso, on either side of the river. It would be to set upon him a whole pack of dissatisfied parishoners and critical "Americans", more or less out of sympathy with missionary work amongst the Mexicans. It would be a burden almost too great for poor human nature to bear. Probably you have already thought of this; but I have ventured to touch upon it, because the idea might occur to some one in Boston, why not put Mr. Whaling in charge of the School, in order to keep Mr. Wright in Cusi.? It may seem best, even though the plans for union should fail, to locate our School on the Border. But Mr. Whaling could not then take it.

I wrote you on the 11th inst.

Sincerely Yours,

James D. Eaton

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Jan'y 28, 1890.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec'y

My dear Sir:-

While the matter of the application of Rev. H. M. Whaling, for appointment to this field, is pending, it may be of service to the Prud. Com. to know what Bro. W. wrote me yesterday, in a private letter, in reply to my suggestion that he plan to attend our annual meeting in Parral, the first week in April, should he be appointed. He says: "During the past few days my faith has weakened somewhat in regard to the final outcome of my application. My Texas brethren are raising a howl about it. Our synodical missionary writes me that he is "astonished beyond measure", - that he "can hardly believe his own eyes", - that I am "distinctively a preacher", - and that my "place is at home". Besides that, he asserts that I am not rugged enough for such work. I wrote him that the opportunities were immeasurably vast in Mexico, and that all I asked of him was to look his duty and responsibility fairly in the face, and then write the A.B.C.F.M. such a letter as he would be willing to take to the judgment bar. What he will write, or what effect his representations may have, I can not guess.

~~Our~~ Other brethren have written me in just the strain; and knowing that they deem my action a mistake, and that they will do what they can to right my error, I feel great solicitude with regard to the matter. These brethren are all dear ~~fri~~ friends of mine. They are conscientious men. But they know nothing about the need of Mexico, and the unequaled opportunities for service there."

I wrote you on the 11th inst. Thank God for Richard Salter Storrs!

Very cordially Yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Jan'y 30,1890.

ev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec'y

My dear Sir:-

A letter received from Bro. M. A. Crawford this morning, ames the first Sunday in March as the date for the dedication of his chapel, sks me to bring my magic lantern, for a series of exhibitions to follow, and ays: "We look forward to the occasion as full of promise for the cause of Christ nd His Gospel here, and we hope your health will be good, and circumstances faorable for your coming, with Mr. Case or Mr. Wright; not only to dedicate, but to onsult about about the work and the future plans of the Mission. The Board, if t has not already, will certainly instruct you upon the need of coming here."

It is encouraging to have Bro. Crawford thus solicit the presence and counel of his brethren, none of whom have ever seen his field, and I am strongly in avor of having two go to the dedication, if two of us can get away. Will you lease give us your advice, and if favorable to the plan, obtain permission for s to use for this object the appropriation made for our Annual Meeting of last ear, which was not expended because we changed from December to April, and have hus dropped out a year? Our several conferences on the Training School matter ave been held when we could teka advantage of one another's movements, and so ave not occasioned extra expense. Mr. Ward knows that our outlays in several irections, have fallen considerably within the appropriations the past year.

An early answer is desirable, that I may apply for reduced rates on the wo railroads beyond El Paso. If obtained, we shall not need all the appropriatior

I wrote you on the 11th, 20th, and 28th.

Faithfully Yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Feb. 7,1890.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec'y,
My dear Sir:-

Mrs. Eaton has referred to your letter of the 28th ult. which brings us the good news of the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. Whaling to this field. They will have the most cordial welcome from all, missionaries and natives, and I can but regard the event as of brightest augury for our work. How the foreign residents will open their eyes, when it becomes known that "the most popular preacher in El Paso" has devoted himself to work for the Mexicans! Some of those who call themselves "Christians", must then be impelled to ask whether, after all, the Presbyterian pastor have not the right of it.

But I must answer your inquiry regarding the Indians. We have no trustworthy information to the effect that existing tribes of Indians in the Sierra Madre mts. are descendants of the ancient cliff dwellers of New Mexico and Colorado, although such connection is not impossible. The simple fact seems to be that many of the numerous Tarahumara Indians, whom we have been hoping to reach some day, have occupied natural caves in the mountains as their habitations, to save themselves the trouble of building adobe houses such as their comrades erect. Of course, living further within the "high sierra", they would be wilder in their habits, more addicted to the chase and less to agriculture, and even more shy than the others, of civilized people. The Tarahumara Indians in general, so far as I can learn, have been baptized by Romish priests, and are fanatical adherents of Rome, although she does nothing for thir education , religious training, or even civilization. The more inaccessible communities, such as these cave dwellers, are still "gentiles" -so called because they have not been baptized even after the superficial Roman fashion.

A separate "mission" established for them in the mountains, would involve great expense, no doubt. Our thought would be rather, that a school be opened in

Cusihuiriachic, for instance, to receive Indian children. Of course, their entire support would have to be provided for. Possibly the government might be induced to aid somewhat. The children could probably be secured for the school without much dificulty. Only last week the "Jefe Político" of the "Abasolo" district, which corresponds to a large county, remarked to Mr. Wright that he could give him letters to the head men of all the Indian towns in his jurisdiction, (of which Cusi. is the county town,)-an official attention that would enable us to approach the Indians under most favorable circumstances. The requisites for a school would be a building, with furniture, a teacher;better, a foreigner - though perhaps a Mexican could be secured to work under our superintendence, and the food and clothing of the pupils. We should hope to get some contributions of corn and beans from the parents, but their value for a long time to come would be too small to enter into the account.

Yesterday, I had a letter from Bro. Crawford regarding the need of a building for school and residence in Hermosillo. Mr. Wright (who was here on a flying trip) and myself agreed as to the importance, and great economy, of erecting such a house. It is very desirable to have it under way by April 1st, if possible. Yet without further estimates and specifications from Bro. C., we could not make a definite application to the Board. But if Mr. Case or Mr. Wright accompanies me to Sonora for the dedication March 1st, as is deemed advisable by them, and referred to you for endorsement in my letter of Jan'y 30, we can inform ourselves very fully, and make our recommendation; and if the Prud. Com. can take prompt action, it will still be possible to begin building in time.

As to location of Training School - since we can not keep our young men from being brought in direct contact with foreign influences, even were the school to be established in some other, interior, city of the State, I think it might as well be on the Border, and Mr. Wright be put in charge, even though the cherished plan for union should, for the present, fail, as we think it will not do.

Sincerely Yours,

James D. Eaton

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Feb. 11, 1890.

Chihuahua

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Your two letters of the 4th inst. are at hand, bringing the good news of a decisive step taken in behalf of the Training School, and we shall respond with alacrity to your suggestion of the importance of prompt action in the matter. I have just addressed Rev. E. Lyman Hood, at Albuquerque and at Chicago, in forming him of our proposed movements, and hope to secure his presence in El Paso at a convenient time. Mr. Case seems to think that the trip to Sonora will be rather beneficial to his health, which is not improving quite so fast as he had hoped and expected. Mr. Wright has been holding himself in readiness to go, should the Committee approve of sending the delegation, and Bro. Case be unable to leave, for any reason. He of course must go to El Paso, and probably we three had better confer together there for a day or two.

The present plan is for me to leave El Paso for Hermosillo on Monday, Mar. 3, to arrive there on Wednesday, and show my sciopticon for a few nights in the new chapel before dedication, in order to attract the public as much as possible to the important services to be held on Sunday, the 9th.

Various messages from Bro. H. M. Whaling of El Paso, written since his appointment, evince an unfaltering purpose to join us, a most earnest desire to begin his new work. The fervid expostulations of his friends do not seem to shake him. Yesterday he wrote: "I wish you knew how happy I am, and what a deep, sweet peace I enjoy". He desires to ask for a letter from his Presbytery to the church in this city under my care,"unless for some good and sufficient reason" I should "deem it to be unwise". That might do for a provisional arrangement, and at the same encourage some foreign residents here to enter our communion. Do you see any objection?

Gratefully and Hopefully Yours,

James D. Eaton

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Feb.24,1890.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Please accept our sincere thanks for your full and kind letters of the 14th inst. addressed to Mrs.Eaton and myself,and giving us so much encouragement to expect aid for the enlargement of the girls' school in this city,when plans shall have been matured,and estimates made with care. Further information may be given after our annual conference in April.

Miss Dunning was grateful for your sympathetic message. No,she does not know of any suitable person who might be secured as second teacher.

While the question of receiving English-speaking pupils into the school is not without its difficulties,we are inclined to think that it would be wise to admit such,at least until the foreign residents shall have so increased in number as to be able to sustain their own schools independently. The very few day pupils,primary,of that class whom we have now,get on very harmoniously with the Mexicans, assist materially in meeting the running expenses of the school, and help to give it a respectable standing in the city. The last point is of considerable importance. For it is a common criticism of our Christian work that it does not convert the upper classes, and it is not easy to get the children of the well-to-do for our school. We have regretted the necessity of turning over to the So.Methodists several American children who applied to us first,as it is natural for them to do,since we have an English department in our Sunday School,and the other church has not. The Methodists receive all foreign children who apply; and in Laredo,on the Rio Grande, they have built up a great school in this way,using the fees paid by foreigners to assist in supporting Mexican children of poor parents.

The school that does not teach English branches to a considerable extent here on the Border,will be abandoned for the one who does.

You ask about Miss Keyes. Under date of Jan.11 I wrote you of her departure and the sad circumstances, and spoke of another matter of importance. If the letter failed to reach you, please inform me, and a copy will be sent at once.

We have been hoping to place our boy, Howard, at school in Montclair next Summer; but the way does not open just yet. If the Whalings spend some months in this city, and seem happy and prospering, perhaps Mrs. Eaton can get away, to take Howard East, and visit the home which she has not seen since the year 1883, and then only for ten or fifteen days. The officers of various missionary societies have expressed a desire to have her visit and address the members. Perhaps she could secure a second lady teacher in this way.

We will try to respond soon to the request from Gorham, Me., for a letter about the Indian girl, Zenaida.

Within three days I plan to leave for El Paso and Sonora, accompanied by Bro. Case; and we will make as careful a study of the ground as the time and opportunities permit. Mr. Wright goes to-night, to make inquiries and get ready for the conference with all of us, including Mr. Hood, on Friday and Saturday.

That is a very delightful glimpse you give us , of the evenings at home with Mrs. Clark reading to you the letters from the various fields. It is very pleasant for us to think that she, as well as yourself, knows something of our situation, and can sympathize with us in our various experiences. Please give her our affectionate salutations, and if you think it safe, just whisper to her a hint of how dearly we love her husband!

Faithfully Yours,

James D. Eaton.

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American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, ~~Mar~~ Apr.1,1890.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Dr.Clark:-

Your favor of the 25 th March is at hand this morning, and I have copied the paragraph of inquiries regarding the Training school to send to Mr.Wright by next mail, as he is in a position to answer them with greater exactness. I had supposed that both he and our secretary, Mr.Case, would be reporting proceedings to you in good time. The former left for El Paso, with his family, two weeks ago today, and took possession of his house one week ago. It is on this side of the river in Paso del Norte, whose name was changed to Ciudad Juarez (Juarez City) over a year ago, in honor of the patriot president who for a time found a refuge here, when hard pressed by the forces fighting in support of Maximilian. The new Post Office is built on the site of the old house which sheltered him, and contains his bust. Another bust is mounted on a pedestal in the center of the main plaza there.

Rec'd April 14

Mr.Whaling met with us at our conference Mar.1st, and had no other thought but to join us soon in this city. A few days later his decision was made public, in the reading of his resignation from the pulpit, and the storm burst. It had been anticipated, but not to such a degree. On my return from Hermosillo I found it raging. The daily papers were protesting. The Supt.of the M.E.Sunday School said he would rather have any other pastor of the city leave. A prominent member of the Pres.church stopped me on the street and asked me to use my influence in persuading Mr.W.to remain. Of course I told him I should not venture to urge to any one to enter the foreign work when situated as Mr.W.was, and that I had not intentionally influenced him to join us, but that if he felt providentially called to enlist in such service, I should not dare attempt to turn him back.

We, Mrs.Eaton and myself, think that you are just right in feeling "that he must settle it in accordance with his own best convictions of duty and privilege."

He made a mistake whem he allowed his church to telegraph you; and if he is wavering, I think he would better not come. I have not heard from him directly since my return on the 14th of March, and prefer to maintain a neutral policy. The only thing I have done was to send him a letter found on my table, which was written by Rev. Wallace of Zacatecas, in a most fraternal spirit, saying that he himself would have done exactly what Mr. Whaling had done, in similar circumstances, in offering his services to the Am. Board. This which I did was to stay up Bro. W. a little under the assaults of his presbytery.

As to the dedication in Hermosillo, I must ask Bro. Case whether he or Bro. Crawford has sent you an account, as I have just done to the "Congregationalist". I know he wrote to you from there a letter embodying our recommendation that an appropriation be made for building a school and residence as soon as possible, and asking that if the appropriation were made, a telegram to that effect be sent Bro. Crawford, to save valuable time. Four days ago Mr. Crawford wrote me that as yet no word had come from Boston. We were much pleased with the church that Mr. C. has erected economically, and with the location, when all things are considered. The state of Sonora also seems to us a favorable field for working. Having been open to foreign influences earlier than Chihuahua, its people are more tolerant. Even with bishop resident in Hermosillo (whereas we have none in this state) there is no shouting of offensive epithets, or throwing of stones, or spitting, after the issionaries, says Bro. C.; -as sometimes occurs in this city.

For three nights before the dedication I showed my Sciopticon and views n the new church, which was crowded. Teachers and officials attended, and the governor of the state himself came one night. This helped to bring out the people n Sunday. We spent ~~DMMP~~ $22.00 for a band of music to parade the streets and lay in front of the chapel, after the custom of the country at entertainments, nd after paying some other expenses, and sending out many complimentary tickets, e still had $18.75 left to apply toward the furniture fund. The Home Miss'y at Nogales,A.T.,Bro.R.T.Liston,who was present,begged me to "show" in his church, which I did on Tuesday and Wed. evenings,Mar.11 and 12,and added nearly fifty dollars to "tower building fund". Mr.Hood,Home Miss.Supt.wants me to let him arrange for a series of similar entertainments during a week or so,amongst churches in New Mexico,at some convenient time,to bring the people out and encourage our little congregations there.

The opportunity for sending our boy Howard to the U.S.,to be educated,which had not presented itself at my last writing Feb.24,was afforded soon after in the return through this city,from her visit to Mexico City,of Mrs.Eaton's sister, Mrs.Henry F.Torrey,of Montclair,New Jersey. On Monday of last week,the 24th ult. she carried away our son,who is to find his home in her family. This house is very lonely without his bright smile and entertaining talk,and helpful,willing service. We had expected to miss him,of course,but I,at least,did not realize what the separation would be. It is almost overwhelming to think of the coming years,and that he probably will not return to live with us,unless indeed he should decide to be a missionary in Mexico,and we should be still living here when that time comes. Under the circumstances it seems harder to stay here now than it was to decide to come here at the first.

The Torreys kindly help us in supporting the boy;but as expenses are so high in Montclair,we shall probably need some assistance pecuniarily,beyond our salary;concerning which I have made inquiries of Mr.Ward.

Faithfully Yours,

James D. Eaton.

Mrs.Eaton's letter to the friends in Gorham,Me.is enclosed for your perusal,as suggested,to be forwarded. Strange they had forgotten the name of the girl,Zenaida Poblano,grand-daughter of Eugenio Durán,which I myself sent them long ago.

Mission to Northern Mexico,
Chihuahua,April 19,1890.

ev.N.G.Clark,D.D.,Sec'y,

My dear Sir:-

We have returned from the delightful meeting of our Annual onference in Parral,with new hope and courage for the coming~~s~~ year's work. ro.Wright was deputed to send you an account of it,so I will not repeat.

The Mission asked me to write you of another matter of importance,which oncerns us all,but more especially Bro.Case. You may be aware that the slowess with which he has recovered strength since the last surgical operation to hich he submitted,and the continued weakness of the limb,have led him to feel omewhat discouraged as to his being able to continue for a great while longer n the work here. He says that perhaps,by limiting to a very crippling degree he use of the limb,he might remain for years and accomplish something, but that uch a limitation would be both difficult and unsatisfactory to him. He can carcely bear the thought,however,of withdrawing permanently from this Mexican ork,and rather than do so,would remain at his present post as long as his fellow workers think best. It is quite possible that even yet the condition may f the limb may improve,according to the prediction of the surgeon at the time f the last operation.

All the physicians who have had to do with the case,agree that the diffiulty results from imperfect circulation in the limb;and Dr.Paschal has more han once expressed the opinion that a residence nearer the sea level would give he heart a better chance to do its work. "My own experience would seem to conirm this opinion", says Bro.Case,"for while the injury to the bone occurred in y boyhood,from that time until after removing to Mexico (a period of more than wenty years)I had never experienced these disabling attacks,with one partial xception,caused by prolonged exposure to very severe cold." While realizing

Rec'd April 8

hat a change from his present altitude,of about 6000 feet,to near the sea level ould,in this latitude,be something of an experiment,the desire of himself and ife would be to attempt it rather than take permanent leave of the work; proided of course that such a plan were approved by the Board.

The Northern Mexico field includes a vast territory in the states of Sonora nd Sinaloa,the principal cities and towns of which have all an altitude of less han one thousand feet. Sinaloa has a much denser population than either Chiuahua or Sonora. It has not one foreign missionary,and the northern half is a ield never yet entered by an evangelical worker. The So.Methodists have a naive helper at Mazatlan,and plan to occupy the whole state as soon as they can ommand the force to do so. If we ever expect to share in the evangelization of hat region,a beginning must be made very soon. At present the whole district etween Hermosillo and Mazatlan lies open. The most important points are: Alaos,in Southern Sonora,a place of four or five thousand pop., El Fuerte,in No. inaloa,about the same size, Sinaloa City (the old capital), and Culiacan,the resent capital,with a pop. of ten or twelve thousand. Pueblos and large hacienas are very numerous.

Before determining whether it would be wise,under any circumstances,to unertake work in this region,an exploration should be made. From Parral to El uerte there is a regular traveled route,leading through the Tarahumare country nd passing the important mining center,Batopilas. The distance is only about 50 miles,which by easy stages can be made in ten days (in the saddle). It ould seem best for Mr.Case and Mr.Crawford to meet at El Fuerte,and from there o on perhaps as far as Culiacán. Mr.Case would expect to be absent from home bout one month,while Mr.Crawford would require but little more than half that ime.

The Mission unanimously recommended that the exploration be made,with the xpectation that the expenses would be brought within the appropriations for the urrent year.

After examination of the ground, and a further trial of health in Parral, if t should seem advisable to transfer Bro. Case to the new field, he would propose oing there in the coming autumn. From all we have been able to learn by inquiy, it appears probable that his best route in moving would be by the mule freight rains directly across the mountains, not only for the limited amount of household goods that he would plan to take for the first year or two, but also for the family, - the expense probably amounting to much less in this way than to go around by way of El Paso and Sonora.

Should such a change be made in fields, the Board would not necessarily be ompelled to increase the force already engaged in Mexico; neither would Parral ave to be abandoned to the native Christians. Bro. Bissell, of La Barca, the delegate from Western Mexico, expressed himself in such a way that we believe that, if f a call were given him, he would with little hesitancy accept a place in our ission. He feels that Bro. Howland does not need him in Guadalajara, and would ather not have him move there. Sooner than go there, under the circumstances, he would probably prefer to engage in work in the U.S. He is not a showy man, but one of excellent spirit, and a faithful worker. Placed amidst more favorable surroundings, he would take heart and be drawn out to greater activity and usefulness.

You will be so kind as to present this matter to the Prud. Committee and, if the proposed tour of exploration is approved, notify Mr. Case as soon as convenient, that he may get started before the greatest heats of summer come.

One other matter that concerns myself. My letter of April 1st explained how we came to send our twelve year old son, Howard, to be educated in the United States. We had thought of asking the Mission to endorse our application to the Board for permission to Mrs. Eaton to take Howard to New Jersey next summer.

But the coming of her sister this way has made that unnecessary at present.

Mr. Ward writes, in answer to my inquiry, (there being no copy of the "Manual" at this station) that it is necessary to obtain the approval of the Prud. Com. for this step, in order that the usal aid be granted. Will you please present the case to them, and let me know whether my irregularity of action is excused (through invincible (?) ignorance), and the sending of the child approved.

Sincerely Yours,

James D. Eaton

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In Perils of Small-pox.

This scourge of humanity seldom ceases entirely its ravages in Mexican towns, and we have learned to face it with a degree of self-control. But occasionally our experiences are rather disquieting.

While engaged in a nine days' campaign of meetings with the youngest of our churches, situated in this very fanatical community, it seemed best to Mrs. Eaton and myself to make a side trip last Wednesday, to Galeana, twenty miles north, a village of 400 or 500 souls, which had never been visited by any missionary or native preacher, but where we have three subscribers to "El Faro", and where there are living several relatives of the Christians in this town.

Rec'd April 25

We were entertained in the humble home of the public school teacher and his wife, who are the only believers in the place, and who had made all preparation in their power for our comfort.

As the school room is undergoing repairs, the pupils are received into the one living room of the master, filling it to its utmost capacity. Against two of the walls hang the dozens of tiny slates; a third is supplied with pegs for the boys' hats; and near the fourth stands the master's table, covered with ink bottles and cheap text books. There are no wall maps; but two printed sheets present to the eyes of the boys the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments.

Arriving at dusk, we are given supper, and seat ourselves outside the door in the star-light, to talk with our hosts. They soon tell us of the fatal prevalence of the small-pox. One of our subscribers, a Swiss who has a Mexican wife, has left for us a cordial invitation to go to his house, but thinks it proper to inform us that two of his children had recently died of the disease. In the house next to us lies the edad body of another little victim, exposed to public view, as is the custom of the country. Forty-two persons, mostly children, have died of the plague this Spring, as many as three having been buried in one day. The average school attendance has been diminished by one-half through deaths and continued sickness. Several who had been successfully vaccinated, have succumbed to the plague.

After listening to such a recital, we felt like sleeping in the street, but accepted the bed provided inside, and left the door wide open.

The next morning a boy who had scabs still on his face, was sent to buy milk for our breakfast. Soon came the school children, to the number of over thirty, and we were obliged to shake the dirty hands of almost all of them. After a morning spent in calling, we returned in time for Mrs. Eaton to give them their first lesson in the Tonic Sol Fa system, and for myself to address them a few words. The father of the dead child came to get help for the funeral; and at once four boys volunteered with alacrity to be the bearers of the coffin. Just before noon came the news of the death of still another, and, on driving away in the buggy, we left the teacher with his brightest pupil busily engaged in writing polite invitations to the friends of the family to attend the burial!

What added to the horror of the situation was, that the officer appointed to record births and grant burial permits, and who would be justified in asking a fee of perhaps twenty-five cents in the case of children, and fifty cents for adults, determined to profit by the calamity, and was demanding two dollars and a half for the former, and eight dollars for the latter! That day's semi-weekly mail carried a petition from the stricken people to the county authorities, begging that the officer be removed.

The wonder is, not that so many die of the plague, but ~~that~~, with the total neglect to isolate cases of sickness, and destroy infected clothing, that any survive.

San Buenaventura, ~~April~~ May 12, 1890.

James D. Eaton,

Chihuahua, Mexico.

11

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, May 27, 1890.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec.

My dear Sir:-

Yours of April 19 was received on the morning of the 30th, just before the departure of Mrs. Eaton and myself for San Buenaventura, one hundred and fifty to the northwest, where our youngest church was organized last October, but which has not been visited since by any missionary or helper.

We had planned to start a day earlier, but a disappointing delay at the blacksmith's hindered us. The delay was a great blessing; for otherwise we should have been overtaken by a tremendous hailstorm, which ravaged the country along our route for about thirty miles. As we passed that way the next day, and saw the green leaves and twigs carpeting the ground underneath every small tree and shrub, we were very thankful for our escape from great danger.

The detention also enabled us to have a day's visit from Bro. Case who came from Parral in great weakness and pain, to see Dr. Paschal and obtain, if possible, some relief. The Dr. approved of the trip to Chicago to secure amputation of the offending member, and that skilled nursing which is so important, and we ourselves heartily endorsed the move. It seems that amputation was not resorted to after all; but until we know the result of the severe operation, upon Mr. Case's general health, we can not plan much for the future with reference to him. As to Spain, I do not see why Bro. Bissell might not meet the need as well as Mr. Case, ~~an~~ and then the relations already existing could be left undisturbed; always supposing of course that Mr. Case recovers his health. Mr. Bissell has an excellent knowledge of the language, better in fact than Mr. Case; perhaps a more exact acquaintance with it than any member of this Mission. It may be due to his careful editorial work on "El Testigo" for so long a time. He has not, it is true, a captivating way with him; but his earnest christian spirit and his thoughtful manner in giving expression to his opinion on matters under discussion, cannot

May 27 189

fail to impress those who may be with him.

About Mr.Olds,- we have suggested to the Wrights that, after a little visit with them, he come to this city. 1.The climate here is somewhat more favorable to health, it is generally supposed. 2.We can as easily secure good teachers of the spanish, (much better than in Parral,) as in Juarez. 3.Mr.Olds would be much nearer his future field of labor, and I could occasionally make a trip with him to the sierra region, which would be favorable to his health, and gradually acquaint him with the people and their ways. But naturally the Wrights will prefer to keep him as long as possible with them. And Mr.Wright ought not to plan for long absences from home, unless rendered necessary for reasons of health, until he has his work well in hand in Juarez. The training school is not going to succeed without the putting forth of a great deal of patient endeavor, first to get hold of the young men, and then to give them painstaking instruction even in the most rudimentary branches. I could wish that Mr.W's father would encourage him with counsel similar to that written to our Miss Dunning by her father, who tells her that her labors will not be in vain, even though she may not succeed in training up more than one thoroughly useful woman, or may not do more than save a girl whose daughter shall be the useful worker in the Lord's cause.

In this connection I may be allowed to say a word in reference to the proposed reduction in the appropriations for the coming year which took us so much by surprise at our annual meeting, that we could not credit the statement, and thought that there must be a clerical error. By your earnest appeal in "The Advance," we understand that the possible reduction is rendered necessary by the appointment of new missionaries. Since the appearance of the article, I have had no opportunity to confer with my brethren; but it is the decided feeling at this station that it would be better not to commission the new missionaries (i.e. to increase the foreign force) than to diminish our resources for developing the work here. It is a fair question whether we ought to organize more churches until we shall have raised up more native helpers, partially educated at least. But this can not be done without an increase of appropiations. The students will have to be supported; and it is an expensive country to live in. The commonest day laborer gets from fifty to seventy-five cents per diem in this city. The latter was paid to the "peones" who carried adobes, mud and mortar for our building this Spring. Many a "mozo" (door-keeper and errand boy) in private houses here get ten to fifteen dollars monthly and board. On our late tour we had a talk, one noon-time of resting, with an unlettered youth on a ranch by the way-side whose sole duty was to watch, to keep the stray animals from trespassing upon the growing wheat. For this he received fifty cents a day; ~~of~~ if he preferred, twenty-five cents per diem and his board. The Prud. Com. ought to be informed of the immense difference there is between prices here and in China or Japan.

Rather than have our small appropiation reduced, I should say recall to the U.S. one of our families. Mrs. Eaton and I are willing to go; but we do not feel reconciled to the idea of remaining here as pastor and pastor's wife in charge of a native congregation.

In San Buenaventura we spent two Sundays and the intervening week, and were much encouraged to find all the brethren continuing faithful. Some nine meetings in all were held, with larger attendance than when the church was organized; voices were heard in prayer for the first time; and thre candidates were propounded for admission next time, after a careful examination, some others being advised to wait a little time yet, one of the three being the lady of the house in town where the brethren were stoned during their meeting last July, and where Mr. Wright and myself conducted a service in peace, or comparative peace, in October, only through having a police officer stationed near by to preserve order, so "fanatical" is the town.

The enclosed sketch may be of service in the dept. of "Letters" etc.

I shall try to take time to give you some account, a little later, of the incursions of the Mormons into that fair region.

Your favor of April 25 reports the kind action of the Committee in approving the sending of our son to the U.S. for his education, and asks for certain information regarding him, that the usual allowance may me made for his support from April 1st, he having left here on the 24th March to go directly to New York. His full name is Howard Demarest Eaton, born in New Jersey (Bound Brook), February 10th, 1878. The entire grant in aid may be remitted, monthly or quarterly as may be the custom, to Mr. Henry F. Torrey, Montclair, New Jersey, who has received our boy into his family, and who will report to me what more is expended in his behalf, that I may make up the deficiency at this end. Were it not for the great generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Torrey, we should not be able to have our son live in Montclair.

Hoping that your strength may be equal to the many demands upon it this season, not only for your own sake, but for ours as well who feel so greatly bereft whenever you are constrained to go "apart and rest a while" for a longer period than usual, and with affectionate salutations from all the circle at this station, I remain,

Sincerely Yours,

James D. Eaton

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American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, July 23, 1890.

Chihuahua.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec.,

Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:-

I have as yet received no response to my letter of May 27; but did not intend for that reason to let so much time pass without writing you again. My plan was to write about our school matters in this city, before Mrs. Eaton and I left, on July 8, for a visit to the congregations in the sierra region; but it was impossible. Now the case is still more urgent, because Miss Dunning, now that the end of her two months' vacation approaches, seems less able than before to carry the responsibility.

She kept herself up during term time by the free use of quinine, (to which she became accustomed in New Jersey,) against our protests; and vacation has not restored her strength. Today she is ill in bed, with bowel trouble.

All through the school year we have observed that she could not do her work easily. Lacking a normal training, and having had no experience in managing a school, and being very conscientious, she has allowed herself to feel worried, although both my wife and myself have said to her repeatedly, that she had no cause to feel so when shen was doing her best.

The first of February last I engaged the services of an accomplished Mexican gentleman to teach three classes in mathematics, which seemed to be the hardest for Miss D., using the $25. monthly appropriated for a teacher for boys' school. Mrs. Eaton takes all the music pupils; and one of the older scholars has taught as an assistant throughout the year. So we have done our best to relieve her.

She is too valuable a person to be lost to the work; and she would like to visit in the homes of the people to some extent, besides taking charge of the boarding pupils in the house, and teaching a few classes in the school, without being responsible for its management.

We had hoped that one American lady teacher, with Mexican assistant, might carry the day school and care for a few boarders; and so Mrs. Eaton offered, in Dec. 1888, to receive boarders as a temporary arrangement, for a few months, until Miss Keyes' successor should be found. But we now see that only a young woman of exceptional strength and ability can well do all this. There must be two, to carry on the work, and be companions for each other.

Mrs. Eaton has now carried the boarding dept. for a year and a half, (being unwilling to transfer it to Miss D's unused shoulders,) having had as many as eleven girls at a time under her care; in addition to her own special work with the women and families; and she feels that matters cannot go on much longer as they are. We work to secure the pupils, receive into the house those who come from outside the city, plan for the carrying on of the school, attend to all of the money accounts of both day and boarding depts., and then find that the teacher in charge has not the physical strength to carry on the school again, at the announced time. Mrs. Eaton feels that her lot, as the missionary's wife upon whom falls the brunt of responsibility, when the pinch comes, is not an enviable one. The school work, (with three different principals in the four years,) has been harder to carry on than several other departments of the missionary work put together.

We remember your kind offer, a few months ago, to send us the second teacher, if possible. The Annual Conference in Parral, in April, endorsed our application for her; and now we report that we need a teacher who is acquainted with normal methods, or at least who is experienced in teaching, and is possessed of a good constitution. We must make it the chief aim of our school to train young women to be teachers, and thus meet the calls that come to us from various quarters, with increasing urgency. Some weeks ago we knew that the So. Meth. Woman's Bd. had commissioned two ladies, one having a knowledge of the Spanish and the other with experience as miss'y to the Indians, to come at once August 1st, to this city. Yesterday the lady in charge of their school at present told us that the number of eachers has been increased to four, though she did not know why so many should ave been commissioned, as the average attendance of their day school is only sixeen just now. But undoubtedly they are planning to build up a strong school at his political and geographical center. You will, I am sure, send us speedily hat good woman whom the Lord must have called to this work.

But in the present stress what shall we do? (1) If Mrs. Eaton should be alowed to carry on the school, we should have two sick ladies, instead of one. 2) If Miss D. should be allowed to open on the 4th of August, as planned, and get eriously ill and die here, we could never forgive ourselves for consenting to he step. (3) To extend the vacation indefinitely, in a country where the native chools have no summer vacation, would be demoralizing. (4) To close the school ould be inviting our pupils to go to the Methodists, who have had no vacation at ll. (5) For a month past we have continued the school in the mornings under the exican assistant; but she holds thus only the smaller girls. (6) The boarders. e have arranged for two bright girls to come at the end of next week, from San uenaventura, 150 miles no. west, and last week got the promise of another choice ne from San Isidro, 125 miles west, whose parents would not consent, two years go, to part with their daughter. Shall we tell these not to come, and send back ome the six now waiting in our house for the term to open? Please give me our opinion at once, if possible.

In Parral there is living a Miss Jacobs, daughter of an American miner, a weet Christian and a friend of the Cases, and well acquainted with the Spanish, ho has thought some of entering the miss'y work, and with whom we have had some orrespondence, months ago, with reference to the possibility of her coming to help iss Dunning. But she has had no experience in teaching, and has not been sure that er family would remain in Mexico, and she would only answer for the primary pupils, we suppose. So we have never made any arrangement with her.

There is not time today to report our successful two weeks' tour just concluded. Also, I had hoped to send you by this time our estimates for next year. But two of my letters have failed to reach Bro. A. B. Case, and I am still waiting for some figures from him.

Mrs. Eaton suggests that it might greatly help Miss Dunning to go to the U.S. for a few weeks, for rest and change, not probably so far as her home. Mr. Dutton was thus saved the first summer here, when he fell very sick with the same complaint, and went to Kansas. If you approve, please telegraph, and then we will inform Miss D.; have said nothing to her yet. We have made various plans for "outings" for her during vacation, but have not succeeded in getting her to adopt any of them, and she has stayed in the city. Of course there is little that is attractive outside, in the way of board or personal surroundings, but it is possible to get much purer, and considerably cooler, air.

Fortunately, my wife and I have been better in health this summer than ever before during our stay in Mexico, though we never worked so hard before, with so little of let up. It is many months since I have taken a grain of quinine, although in all other years at this time, or before, I have had the old malarial symptoms so strongly as to compel the use of remedies. Occasionally they trouble me now, but not seriously. I think we must have become pretty well acclimated by the present time. Hoping to hear that your own health is reasonably good, I remain

As ever Yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Aug. 4, 1890.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec'y,

My dear Sir.-

Your letter of the 29th July, received this morning, brings good cheer, and awakens the hope that we may speedily be reinforced by the coming of a competent lady teacher to take charge of our girls' school and convert some promising material we have into native teachers. May we soon hear that the right person has been found! There is no better time of year than the present for beginning residence in this city; and one who should arrive within a month or six weeks from now, could get enough of the languague to be able to do considerable work in the school room after the Christmas holidays. But her simple presence on the ground would give great encouragement at once.

One week after writing you, we had an unexpectedly favorable opportunity for sending Miss Dunning away, to camp out with the Wrights near a spring some few miles from Deming, New Mexico. As the place was so near, and Miss D. would go at her own charges, and be in missionary company, I had no hesitation in favoring the lan; indeed both Mrs. Eaton and myself strongly advised her to go. If we had waited further for word from you, perhaps she would not have gone; for her courage seemed to fail her a little at the last, as she had time to thing more about the ittle difficulties to be encountered. We think it will do a world of good for her to be shaken a little out of herself and out of her daily habits.

We did not feel that Miss Jacobs would fill the bill, being without experience, nd Mrs. Eaton has insisted on going into the school for one hour in the morning, nd another in the afternoon. This, with the help of a Mexican gentleman and one f the older girls, will keep things running until Miss D. gets back, in a few weeks.

As soon as possible I will send Estimates, as desired, of the probable expense f fitting up enlarged accommodations for the day and boarding school.

Very sincerely Yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Aug. 13, 1890.

Chihuahua

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec'y,

My dear Sir.-

With this I enclose our Estimates of amounts needed for the prosecution of the work in the field of the Northern Mexico Mission, for the year 1891, on an economical basis. By a comparison with our figures for last year, you will see that we have avoided enlargement, except where involved in the coming of a new missionary, Mr. Olds, and in the promises made to the two boarding schools.

We do not see how any material "reduction" is possible. The amounts now expended for native help are relatively small; i.e. the number of native helpers is very small, although the cost of living is high here, and the salaries will have to be increased, when the workers are better educated. (The common day laborers, or peons, in this city, who carry burdens, or make bricks, get sixty-two and seventy-five cents a day.) To reduce our native force, already so small, would be to undo with one hand what we propose to do with the other, in the line of the Training School at Juarez.

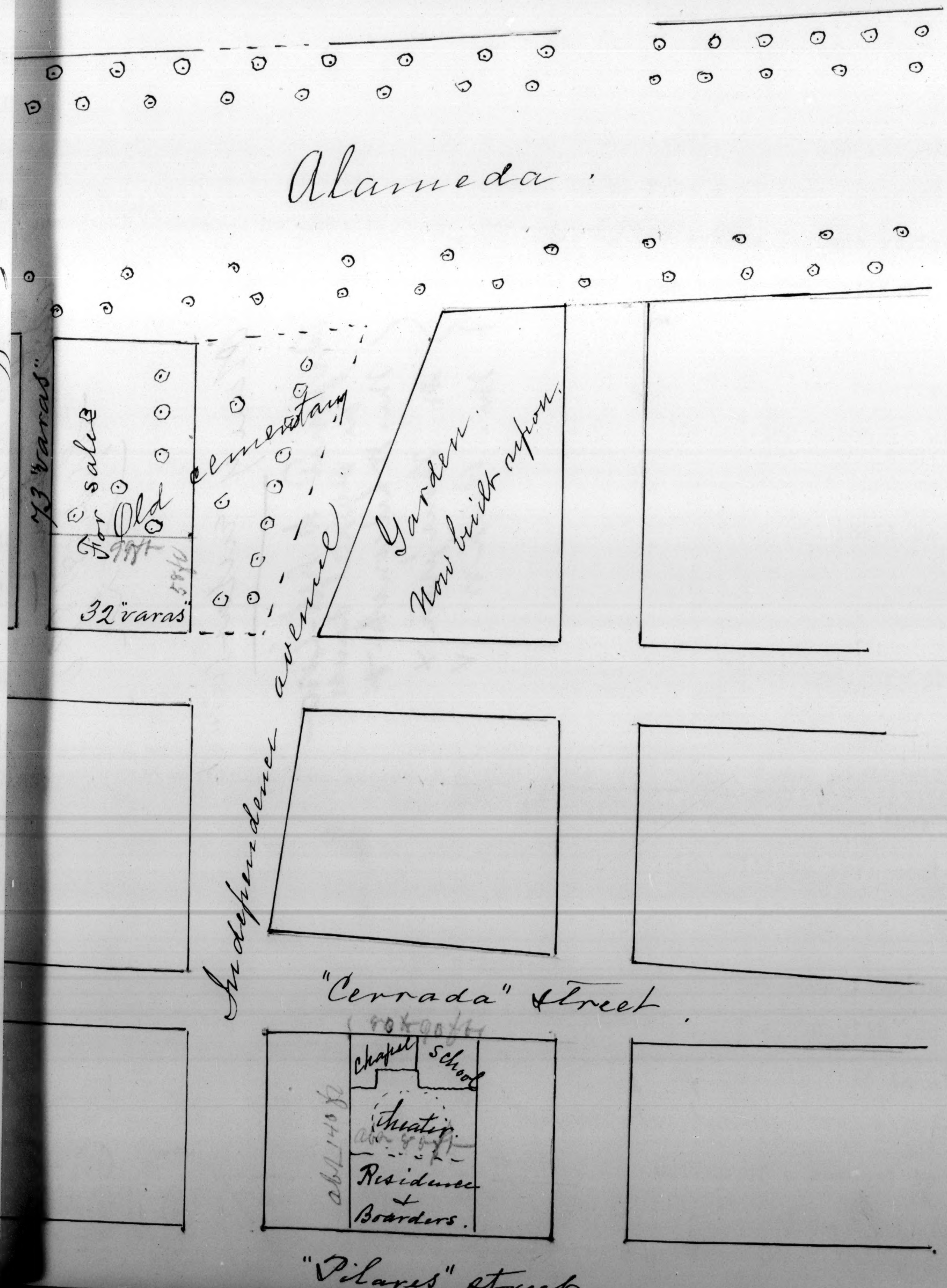
But in response to inquiries made after our Annual Meeting in Parral, in April last, you encouraged me to think that this new Mission would not be compelled to disorganize its developing work. We devoutly hope so.

The great fall in the price of exchange on the U.S., due to the recent extraordinary rise in the value of silver, will throw an additional heavy burden on the treasury, as compared with several years past, which we deeply regret.

Not forgetting my promise to send you soon estimates for enlarged school accommodations in this city, (our needs do not grow less, you see!) I remain,

Sincerely Yours,

James D. Eaton.


Alameda
73 "varas"
For sale
Old cementary
99 ft
45 ft
32 "varas"
Garden
Now built upon.
Independence avenue
"Cerrada" Street.
(80 x 90 ft)
Chapel
School
theater
abt 80 ft
abt 140 ft
Residence
+
Boarders.
"Pilares" street.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Oct.14,1890.

favors of Sept.27 and Oct.1 are before me. In reply to
that the second of the sums suggested by you, as possibly
ur school for enlargement, viz.$1,500.00 gold, is almost pre-
he estimates secured by me from a Mexican contractor about
were thinking of devoting the entire Cerrada st.front of
rposes of said school, and drew plans for utilizing, in con-
ls now standing.
ient of securing the best part of the land referred to in
or the new church; and you will receive probably within a
etter of the Mission upon the subject. So that we are
the proposed changes at an early date, and shall be very
offices of the ladies of the Woman's Board.
"changes", as against an entirely new building, are two lead-
f Economy. The So.Meth. missionary residence, very plainly
nearly large enough for our purposes, cost $3,000. silver.
customs of the country. Very few of our girls will ever
yle of house; and it would seem wiser to show them how to
ve house, which at the same time will be more comfortable

ation of Mr.Bissell, you will perhaps have received alread-
s be designated to this Mission. I agree with you that
e demands in Spain; and I am not certain that in all par-
d come up to the Gulicks' requirements. You know my own
stance even to consider the matter of a removal to Spain.

The Gulicks would better select a young man after their own heart, and he would soon be speaking the new language.

It is my firr conviction that we ought to be reinforced in this developing work, and though I should deeply regret the removal of Bro. Case from Parral, and the region he has so well cultivated, he might well be allowed to open up the field on the West coast, as his heart inclines him, while Mr. Bissell is sent to succeed him. Mr. Olds will naturally follow the Wrights in working the western part of this State, although I think his brother and sister have the idea of arranging for him to succeed Mr. Case. But both Mr. Case and myself think that Mr. Bissell is by all odds the man to take the place at present, if vacated.

The annual conference of the So. Meth. Border Mission is now in session in this city, - thirty to forty ministers in attendance, mostly Mexicans, presided over by Bp. Atticus G. Haygood. A fourth teacher, Miss Gilbert of Virginia, a charming Christian lady, with eight years ' experience in Mexican work, has just joined the other three teachers already assigned to this city. That church is pushing things, with a largely increased appropriation for the Mexican Missions this year, and no doubt a larger one still for next year; and we must bestir ourselves, if we would not have the others occupy all the good places that are left between here and the Pacific, within a very few years.

Please push the matter of a new and finely qualified teacher for us, as Miss Prescott is only lent to us for a time by Parral. And Mr. Crawford must have his to utilize the new building in Sonora.

We have no word yet from Minneapolis.

Very truly yours,

James D. Eaton

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Oct. 21, 1890.

Chihuahua, Oct. 21, 1890

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

It has brought us great relief to-day to learn from the "Congregationalist" and "Independent", of the satisfactory outcome at Minneapolis. We are deeply pained by the spirit shown by the "Advance".

You may have already heard of the plans for securing a grand Congregational rally in C. Juarez at the end of December next, when the New West teachers can avail themselves of their vacation for meeting with the Home and Foreign missionaries. We hasten our own annual meeting by a little over three months, in order to accomodate them. The New West Ed. Com. will send a secretary from Chicago; and Supt. Sanders of Colorado, (A. H. M. S.) will be present, and we hope, Supt. Scofield of Texas.

It only remains for the American Board to send its representative. Can you not come again yourself? Or, if that be not possible, we beg you to arrange to spare us Sec'y Creegan. Or if that again be not practicable, then let us have Mr. Hitchcock from Chicago.

We beseech of you not to deny us this boon. There is active superintendence on the part of other denominations working in Mexico. The So. Methodist church especially is wide awake to see and to seize its opportunities here. Last Sunday night I heard Bishop A. G. Haygood read off his appointments for the coming year, including several new places in the three states of Chihuahua, Sonora and Sinaloa. The So. M. E. ch. is asking for six more American male missionaries to locate in Mexico. The "Border Conference" is from this day divided into two bodies, the new one being called the "Northwest Conference", to hold its annual meeting next time in El Paso; while the other half meets in Laredo, Texas.

At the missionary meeting on Saturday night, after vigorous efforts, the sum of over $800 was secured, in cash and subscriptions, mainly from missionaries and native preachers, for the foreign work and church extension. They aim to build houses of worship in every town; and the bishop, in an impassioned speech, wanted the preachers and church members present to understand that "a great church was back of them, with prayers and gifts, and would stand by them till the day of judgment".

Whoever comes to our Conference, opening Dec. 23, will of course visit this city at least. Then we can confer together as to the advisability of having an English department in our girls' school, and other matters. The new Methodist teachers are taking right in the children of leading American families here, some of whom we had in our school under Miss Ferris, in 1886, but who were dismissed by Mr. Wright and Miss Keyes, against the judgment of Mrs. Eaton and myself, although we would not vote against the step, more especially as our own son Howard was one of the pupils affected by it. You can understand how the Methodists, wise in their generation, will thus soon lead the Mexican population to suppose that they enjoy the confidence of the foreign residents to a greater degree than do we. As the religious prejudices of the people in time are modified, and the more liberal families become willing to avail themselves of Protestant educational facilities, which of the two missions will be more likely to receive their patronage?

But do please to come to us yourself, and talk of these things with us; or send some one in your place. We can not take "No" for an answer. This is a critical time with us.

And don't forget about that lady teacher we need so much.

Fervently hoping that this may not find you prostrated by the labors and anxieties of the annual meeting, I remain,

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton.

P.S. One week ago I wrote you of several matters of considerable interest.

My father, Dr. I. W. Eaton, who is with me, was struck by the advice of the bishop to the Conference, to "keep close" to the foreign residents! We shall want their help.

J.D.E.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Nov. 3, 1890.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

I feel very rich in having your two letters, of Oct. 20 and 22, and am gratified to know that the information contained in mine of the 14'th was of service.

The annual Border Conference of the So. Methodist church having closed its sessions in this city, I am able to report that the great promise of development in the mission work here has led to the division of the body into two distinct organizations, the new one to bear the name of the "North-west Conference", covering, in Mexico, almost precisely the ground which we, of the Northern Mission, desire to occupy. The bishop, in addition to locating men in all the places already occupied by their Board, announced "to be supplied", Magdalena, Ures and Alamos, in the state of Sonora, Culiacan in Sinaloa, and Casas Grandes in Chihuahua. In Ures Bro. Crawford had a man for a time, but withdrew him; to Alamos I tried to get him to go, some three years ago; Culiacan will probably soon have R.R. connection with Durango; and Casas Grandes is only fifty miles beyond our church in San Buenaventura, on the way to Sonora.

You see that now is the time for us to possess the centers which we may reasonably hope to hold; and we wish to know how far the old Board will stand by us in pushing evangelistic work for our "Next Door Neighbor".

According to your suggestion, the matter of an appropriation for a new church edifice in this city, was submitted to the brethren of the Mission, for their formal action; and your will find enclosed the appeal signed by them, with the exception of Bro. Crawford, who agrees in emphatic terms that the proposed new edifice is greatly needed; but objects, for substance, that the Board is poor, that Chihuahua City has already been much favored in the matter of appropriations, that a building constructed entirely of adobe would answer our needs just as well, and that

Mr. and Mrs.Eaton have so many friends (!) that they could raise all the money x necessary themselves. To this last suggestion I may be permitted to respond that I shall do my best to interest our family relatives and friends, so as to diminish the amount to be drawn from the treasury. But if some of those numerous "friends" fail to rise to the occasion, we do not want to see work hampered.

We are very grateful for the vote of $1500 to enlarge the school; but we can not use the funds, until the question of the new church is disposed of in some way. To go to work on the school first would throw us out of our present chapel as well; and it would not be easy to find another large room to accomote us meanwhile, nor would it be economical to pay the high rent demanded. But if the lot for the church be purchased at once, so that funds for building may be solicited and appropriated without delay, the work of construction might be finished by the middle of next year. We might then occupy the new house, with both congregation and day school, and have the school building fitted up before the end of the year.

My letter of Sept.19'th has already put before you our need of the church building with sufficient clearness, I think. We were encouraged by you to suppose that the acceptance of the good offices of the Woman's Board in behalf of our school, would not prejudice the interests of the new chapel.

Eagerly awaiting your reply, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Nov. 25, 1890.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec'y
Boston, Mass.,

My dear Sir:-

It was very pleasant to know, by your favor of the 5th inst., that Sec'y Hitchcock has been appointed to attend our conference in Juarez. Of course he will give us a day or two in Chihuahua; and if it were not to be in mid-winter, I should feel that he ought to plan to visit some of the out-stations.

Your letter of the 10th, with autograph postscript, written after the Com. meeting of the 11th inst., encourages us to hope for the best, although it does not bring the final decision we have been eagerly awaiting. Yet we shall try to possess our souls in patience, remembering that "it is not a theory, but a condition that confronts" the Committee, and that time is needed for a wise disposal of the many serious questions with which it has to deal.

The fine building site will not be lost by our waiting a little longer, because a foreign resident, who would be pleased to retain it as an investment, has secured the lot from its former Mexican owner, and is willing to transfer it to the Mission.

But I feel unwilling to have "the funds in hand", (which were contributed by or for, the Mexican congregation,) used to purchase the land, because it seems to me on some accounts desirable that the Board should own the future building, as it will, if it owns the site. For the past two weeks exchange on the United States has again been ranging above 20 % premium, which is favorable for the purchase now. And we are thankful to know that the receipts of the treasury, for the first two months of the financial year, show an advance over last year.

You will not forget that we can not begin the enlargement of the school quarters, (now greatly needed, because of the recent addition of several day pupils and three boarders, with the prospect of more boarders after the Christmas vacation,) until the CHURCH QUESTION IS DECIDED. If the new house of worship were to be erected on our present premises, alongside of the school, both buildings would have to be of an entirely different style of architecture from what is now contemplated. And instead of the $1500 gold for the school, just appropriated, we should need perhaps $4,000, because the building would have to be almost wholly new from the ground up, and two stories high, instead of a one-story edifice occupying the entire street front, and adapted from the present buildings.

Perhaps I ought to call your attention to the paragraph on page 4, of my letter of Sept.18; - "(2) As to location. We had expected to accommodate both chapel and school, as now, on the south front of our property, which has between 80 and 90 English feet, by building at least two stories for the school. Even so the chapel would be somewhat crowded, because there is no corner lot, and the law forbids the opening of windows that overlook a neighbor's premises."

Your invitation to us to ask for an appropriation for school building, (to be raised by the Woman's Board,) was gladly accepted, with the understanding that it would be "without any detriment to the church plan", and on the supposition that the new lot would be secured. But unless we build on that new lot, $1500 cannot possibly meet the case. $4000, in a two-story house, would erect about what $2000, would in the United States. (Please bear in mind that additional dormitory room is indispensable, besides improved recitation rooms.) But the new lot would cost less than $900 gold, all expenses of transfer paid. That is, $900 plus $1500, total $2400, - a clear saving of $1600 gold, over the plan of leaving the chapel where it is, and as it is, or rather, much worse than it is, after putting it to shame by erecting a better house alongside of it. If in such circumstances we may safely ppose that the Board would make the very small grant of $900 in aid of a cheap w chapel on the old site, then the treasury would have expended a sum to cover e very amount asked for Sept.18th, viz.$1600 plus $900, or $2500.

This argument has been gone over at this station many times during the year st, when we entertained hopes of securing some other piece of land for a new church; but it was not put before the Com. in set terms in the appeal of Sept.13, and the members of the Com. have not probably been led to connect the question of enlargement of school building, in their minds, with that of the new church, in just this way. The conclusion reached by the Mission seems to me unavoidable, if the premises be granted. Of course aid to the school may be withheld, from force of circumstances; and all further growth in numbers or improvement in methods forbidden. But if there is to be advance in evangelistic and educational work at this center, expenditure in both directions is unavoidable. The question then is, what form shall it take? If it be decided to erect both school and chapel on the present site, $4,000 would perhaps provide the school with indispensable quarters, and help the congregation to build a humble house, whose cheapness would be hidden at the sides. (The So. Methodist parsonage in this city, constructed in a very economical style, and not entirely finished yet, has cost $3,000 silver.) The same amount of money would buy a new and commanding site (900$), furnish $2500 to stimulate the erection of a respectable house of worship, and leave $1500 for remodelling the old chapel and school for the educational work, at the same time leaving a modest play-ground for the pupils, which must otherwise be occupied by the buildings. And the law forbids playing in the streets at recess, for either public or private school children.

If we receive that $2500 toward the church building, and I can raise perhaps $1500 from friends, besides the funds in hand, we have $7,000. Allowing for the difference in cost of building here, that amount would erect a building which w'd cost, say, $2,500 in the U.S. Does that seem extravagant and luxurious for a congregation in this capital city, that is beautifying itself every day by means of new parks and buildings, and has just opened its "Palace Hotel", that cost $120,000 silver, and $30,000 for furnishing, distant a little more than 400 paces from the new lot, or perhaps 300 from the Mission premises that lie between?

Begging indulgence for this further showing of the case, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

James D. Eaton

P.S. With regard to the two young ladies of whom you write, as possible candidates for the foreign work, I should think that they were admirably adapted to work together, taking charge of a boarding and day school, - as in Hermosillo, e.g., if they are not afraid of a warm climate. I should say, in this city, if Miss Dunning were not probably expecting to stay, since Miss Prescott is only lent to us. Can either of the ladies play the organ? Mrs. Eaton has lately written to Mrs. Hume, (to be forwarded to Miss Child,) a letter setting forth the reasons for the conviction forced upon her by these years of experience, that unmarried lady missionaries should be located two in a place.

My father, Dr. Samuel W. Eaton, who has just accompanied me on a ten days' tour in the sierra region, and was impressed with the openings for work there, suggests that it might be wise to send Mr. Olds to the west coast, and ask Bro. Case to take charge in Cusihuiriachic and thereabouts. He could do an important work in holding former out-stations, and developing new ones, that Mr. Olds would hardly be equal to; and his central location would enable him to visit and help the latter from time to time.

Father wishes there were some one to take my place here, so as to leave me free to go about the State with my sciopticon, visiting the schools and removing prejudices, as was done in the principal towns to some extent in the year 1887. But with my treasurer's work, and building operations on hand for the next year, there is no immediate prospect of my being spared for such an enterprise, however important.

J. D. E.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Dec. 6, 1890.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,
Boston, Mass.,
My dear Sir -

I write this line to say that if the appropriations for next year, for this Mission, shall not already have been made, and reported by mail, before this reaches you, it would be well, if possible, to notify us of the Committee's action before Tuesday morning, Dec. 23, when we hold the first session of our annual conference in Juarez.

I shall probably be in El Paso, Texas, on saturday the 20'th, and a letter might be addressed to me at that post office.

Hoping for the best, I am

Sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Dec.10,1890. 20

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,
Boston,Mass.
My dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 1st inst.,with postscript of the 2nd.,is received today,and I hasten to reply,as you desire.

The suggestion that possibly the salaries of Messrs.Bissell and Olds for one year might be saved,to enable us to build,is appreciated as a mark of deep interest in the developing work here;but I could not entertain such a proposal,for the reason that it would seem to some that this station was receiving more than its share.

If the sub-com.on Papal Lands really has come to the conclusion that "in view of the financial situation,nothing can be done",I have another proposition to make. In March next it will be nine years since I received the Commission of the Board to open this field;and since the first of Nov.in that year,when I brought my family here,I have not revisited my late parish,nor any friends in the eastern section of the U.S. It is true that I was compelled to retreat to my father's house two or three times,on account of sickness. But it was not a vacation in any true sense of the word,-only a depressing experience,to be temporarily disabled and banished from the field. And since the summer of 1883 I have not even availed myself of the Prud.Com's permission to retire northward in the heated term.

I have already pledged myself to raise $1000 or $1500 from relatives and friends for the new church,-by letter,of course. I should confidently expect to double or triple the amount,if given an opportunity to see them in person.

My plan then is,that I be granted leave of absence for four or five months, beginning immediately after the week of prayer,for the purpose of raising the funds needed,if possible,-using the little accumulation we now have for the purchase of the land. Mrs.Eaton would then see friends in Montclair and elsewhere,

Very Truly Yours,
James D. Eaton.

from whom she has been so long separated. Mr. Olds or Mr. Bissell could take some of my work here for the time being.

Board
Northern Mexico

Simply to do nothing, but to accept the disappointment of our hopes, would be very discouraging to our native brethren here. But I think their interest might be sustained by the announcement of my purpose, with the permission of the Board, to go and see friends at home in their behalf.

Although the proposed trip would be mainly for work, and not for rest, I think it would be refreshing to the spirit in various ways; and such an absence would much better come before, than after, the erection of the new edifice. As we have no competent native preacher, it is very important that the missionary himself do as faithful work, as his time and strength may allow, in the pulpit and in the homes.

As regards expenses;-my absences in the vicinity of Chicago, in the years 1884 and 1892, did not occasion any expense to the Board beyond my usual salary; and I should do my best to keep within the same limits this time. Yet it might be necessary to have a little help toward the traveling expenses, in going so far.

I wish you would telegraph me here your impressions of this plan; if possible, the permission of the Board to carry it out, subject to endorsement by the Mission. If this reaches you in time for next Tuesday's meeting, it might be a permission.

If not possible then, the approval might be telegraphed the following week, to El Paso, Texas, in care of P.A. Eakins. From this city to New York we pay only $1.90 Mexican, for ten words. I now expect to leave for El Paso Monday evening, the 22nd Dec.

As to entering that needy and promising field on the west coast, if the Board is not going to be able to back us up with buildings and helpers, I do not see how we can prudently extend our lines still further.

In my letter of Nov. 21 was included a postscript on a separate sheet, regarding that "young lady". I purposely separated it from the main letter. If it has been mislaid, and not yet found, I will gladly copy it for you. I want you to see that postscript, because it contained two other important points, which I did not put in the body of the letter, that this last might be devoted solely to the new church subject, and be more suitable for handing to interested persons, if thought best.

Very Truly Yours.
James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Dec. 12, 1890.

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Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Today I have received from Rev. A. B. Case, Parral, your letter of Nov. 28th., erroneously addressed to him, (he is not the treasurer, but the secretary, of the Mission,) which reports the appropriations made to this field for the coming year. Its figures bring considerable relief for our disappointment regarding help for the new church here had made me fear that we might have serious discouragements in other directions as well.

The letter now in hand meets the needs expressed in my request to you under date of the 8th inst.

Sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton.
Treas.

Form No. 44

22

NIGHT MESSAGE.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

31

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THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager. NORVIN GREEN, President.

NUMBER	SENT BY	REC'D BY	CHECK	
Ch213	Xi	Dy	10 paid nm	213a

Received at 109 State Street, Boston. Dec 16 189

Dated El Paso Tex 15

To Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark Secy
1 Somerset St Boston

Please telegraph answer to proposal in letter of December tenth.

James D. Eaton

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Feb.3,1891.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,
Boston,Mass.

My dear Sir:-

You may have wondered at not having received earlier acknowledgment of your letters dated Dec.18, 24 and 31. But after the Conference in Juarez, of which you doubtless received a full report from the secretary, I had an accumulation of ten days' work to dispose of, then the week of prayer, semi-annual report of colporteurs' work to the Bible Agency in Mexico City, and semi-annual treasurer's report for Mr.Ward. Besides, I hardly knew what to write you, after our disappointment, unless it were to assure you that we deeply appreciated your earnest efforts in behalf of the new church, and to say that your letter of sympathy under date of Dec.24 was more grateful to my feelings than a grant of $1000 would have been a few years ago, when money came more easily.

While under the circumstances we could not wonder at the reluctance to grant money for the purchase of the land, I was surprised at the unwillingness of the Committee to have me go to the States for the purpose of seeing in person the "relatives and friends", and so increasing the contributions which I had strong hopes of securing by letter. I had thought to make it clear in my former letters to you on this subject that I had no idea of making appeals, in any way, to churches Sunday Schools or missionary societies. You err in supposing that friends "have already pledged you (me) help". We have not a promise from any one. We have waited for more light on the Board's action, before laying our needs before them. But our cousin Chas.F.Olney, of Cleveland, O., visited this field some years ago, and became intensely interested in the work, sending us $135 at once in aid of it, or "to use for our personal comfort". Last year a Mrs.Talmage, niece by marriage of the famous Dr.T., and a former parishoner of mine, but whom I could not persuade in those years to give for foreign missions, visited us, and sent back $100, telling me to remember that I had a friend ready to help, whenever there should be need.

She does not now attend a Cong'l ch., and presumably does not give to our Board. I could name similar cases which make me feel confident of success, whenever the time shall come for making an appeal; but so far I have not asked a dollar of any one. But I offered to pledge my salary to the amount of $1000, (in the hope of making it $1500) in view of this expected help.

Still, I could see that my going to the U.S. might be regarded in the light of a dangerous precedent for other Missions, and I cordially accepted the decision of the Committee as-wise and prudent. However, the Mission endorsed our prospective application for a furlough "for rest and change", which last has been voted by the Com., without waiting for the application, -much to our gratification. And yet I hardly know what to do. It is undeniable that such a change is needed. It will be nine years next summer since I last saw the Atlantic States, or since I had a vacation in any true sense of the word; that is a long time, in these days of rapid changes, and when there is no ocean rolling between us and our home; and I sympathize with Mrs. Eaton's feeling that unless she can go pretty soon, she will hardly wish ever to revisit the earlier scenes, from which the old-time friends are passing away, and where the current of life is introducing so many changes in thought and custom. If the early building of our church were assured, either by grant of the Board, or otherwise, I could go with a light heart. Or if it were permitted me to appeal to the persons named, in behalf of the enterprise, that would furnish additional motive for the visit. But under the circumstances, I fear I should feel considerably depressed away from my work. We may think it best to go to Montclair next summer, after my next semi-annual report is made up for Mr. Ward, principally for Mrs. Eaton's sake' but I cannot say yet. In the present situation, the States do not attract me strongly, especially when so much work would have to be left undone in my absence.

We are very grateful for the visit from Dist. Sec. Hitchcock, brief though it was, and I believe the beneficial results will apear during the years to come, in our being brought into closer relations with the churches of the Interior.

Our meetings were largely attended during the Wekk of Prayer, and by many new-comers, and greater spiritual earnestness was manifested by the brethren than for some months past, so that we feel much encouraged. Our congregation last Sunday evening was fuller than we hawe had for many months, except on some special occasion.

Following is a copy of the Postscript to my letter of Nov.25,which was mislaid -"With regard to the two young ladies of whom you write,as possible candidates for the foreign work,I should think that they were admirably adapted to work together,taking charge of a boarding and day school, as in Hermosillo,for example, if they are not afraid of a warm climate. I should say, in *this* city,if Miss Dunning were not expecting to stay, since Miss Prescott is only lent to us. Can either of the ladies play the organ ? Mrs.Eaton has lately written to Mrs.Hume a letter, (to be forwarded to Miss Child,) setting forth the reasons for the conviction ,forced upon her by these years of experience, that unmarried lady missionaries should be located *two* in a place.

My father, Dr.Samuel W. Eaton,who has just accompanied me on a ten days' tour in the sierra region, and was impressed with the openings for work there, suggests that it might be wise to send Mr.Olds to the West coast,and ask Bro.Case to take charge in Cusihuiriachic and thereabouts. He could do an important work in holding former out-stations,and developing new ones,that Mr.Olds would hardly be equal to; and his central location would enable him to visit and help the latter from time to time.

Father wishes there were some one to take my place here,so as to leave me free to go about the State with my scopticon visiting the schools and removing prejudices,as was done to some extent in the principal towns in the year 1887. But with my treasurer's work,and building operations on hand for the next year,there is no immediate prospect of my being spared for such an enterprise,however important."

The building for the school,for which $1500 were appropriated,ought to be begun at the end of this month. Miss Prescott is much cramped in her work,and with reason feels considerably dissatisfied with the inadequate accommodations. But I should like to behold some signs that the new church will "materialize" at an early day, before we cramp our present chapel space for the sake of the school. You remember that $1500 will not begin to answer our need,unless all of the present front is surrendered to the school.

As always yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Feb. 9, 1891.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,
Boston, Mass.,

My dear Sir:-

Your kind and sympathetic letter of Jan. 30, (posted Feb. 2,) is at hand this morning, and I am grateful for its words of encouragement. As yet, I have no definite plans, but am waiting for more light, as indicated already in my letter of the 3rd inst. It did not seem best to say anything to the Bissells about supplying our place here temporarily, for two reasons. (1) When they found they were not to be stationed in Parral, they were perhaps a little disappointed, and were tempted to feel, as Bro. B. himself suggested in a meeting, that there was no particular place for them, and that their presence here was rather superfluous. I should have been very unwilling to propose a move that might seem to keep their future destination in uncertainty. (2) The family could not live in this house, because of the presence here of so many boarding school girls, since the Bissells have two pretty big boys. It would be expensive to rent another residence for them, besides the expense of moving so large a family. There is no half fare for children on the Mex. Cent. R. R. after eight years of age. Our thought has been that Mr. Olds, who as yet is not married, nor settled in his future field, might act as a supply in my absence, although of course it may be disappointing to him, as it certainly will be to the brethren in the sierras who are waiting patiently for their new missionary.

At our annual meeting Mr. Wright and myself were appointed a committee to express to you the conviction of the Mission that it would be advisable to locate the permanent building of the Training School on the El Paso side of the border. I wrote to him the other day for the points of the argument which he presented to us at that time, but found that he had expected me to write independently of him, and that he had heard through you of the consent of the Prud. Com. to the proposed move. So it is rather late in the day for me to state the case.

But briefly I may say that it is our feeling that, so far as the evangelistic work is concerned, our efforts should be directed mainly to the population on this side. It is larger on this side, and is "foreign" in every sense of the word, and we have a clear field, the So. Meth. having left it to us soon after Mr. Crawford went to Sonora, whereas on the El Paso side both No. and So. Meth. churches are organized, and in charge of native preachers on good salaries. True, it will be very desirable to have religious services in connection with the school there, in order to hold our own members who go there from different parts of this State, in the hope of bettering their condition mateerially, and many of whom have been, or promise to be, lost to our communion. But we should be very sorry to have our work on this side abandoned, or even slighted. Also, El Paso is so wicked a city, that we feel reluctant to plant the school there; yet Juarez has learned its lesson so well from the "American" sister, that there is not perhaps much to choose between the two!

The arguments for the move were two, as I remember them, viz. (1) the greater facility for, and economy in, the purchase of supplies, and (2), the acquisition and holding of the real estate. In the first place, as you are aware, no religious corporation is allowed to hold real estate in this republic, except such as may be strictly necessary for the purpose of religious worship. Secondly, no foreigner may hold such property within twenty leagues of the frontier, except by special permission of the President. Such permission is usually granted in these times of peace, but considerable dalay and annoyance may always be expected in securing the license. The moral argument, in the minds of all perhaps, or nearly all, is for a location on this side; but the material considerations favoring the U.S. side were so strong as to lead our minds to the decision indicated.

Very sicerely yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, Mar. 27, 1891.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec.
Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Considerable time has elapsed since my last writing; first, because I hardly knew what to say about the school building, and secondly, because there was some uncertainty regarding the final location of the Bissells on the west coast; and there lie before me three of your letters, dated respectively Feb. 9 and 24 and Mar. 2.

Through Treas. Ward I learned that the ladies of the Woman's Board are at work raising the $1500 promised, and that he will advance the money at any time it may be needed. We are now devising plans whereby the sum named may be made to go as far as possible; for we really ought to have $2000 or $2500 to put things in shape to compare favorably with the Mexican public school buildings. Since we received the promise of help last fall, the city has expended large sums in remodelling its buildings for both girls and boys. It is a complete transformation, giving airy, well lighted rooms, with hard pine floors, and improved furniture. Each room is not less than ten metres long, five wide and five high; and on no account must there be more than fifty pupils in each room.

We cannot possibly compete with the So. Meth. Mission in this matter. Miss Holding, principal of the famous seminary at Laredo, was here a few weeks ago to plan for building, and we called upon her. Their three teachers are living temporarily in a portable wooden building that cost one thousand dollars, and they are constructing a cheap adobe building for the "free" department of the school. They tell us that not less than $10,000. will be spent on the main building that is to go up this year. The estimates of a contractor here, for the edifice they wished to erect, called for $16,000. But they expect to put up the larger part of the contemplated building now, waiting to make it complete when they can get more funds. These fine quarters are designed to attract "pay scholars" from the better fam-

ilies in society, still Romanists, or at least liberals. They expect thus in time to reach those same classes with the gospel. Bishop Haygood, who manifested so much interest in the Mexican work at the last conference in this city, as we are informed by their Spanish paper, is to establish his residence in Los Angeles Cal., with the design of doing more to promote the Spanish work. The last "Evangelista" contained two articles from his pen, besides the regular instalment of his book, "The Man of Galilee", translated by Mrs. Watkins. Right here I may be permitted to say that it would undoubtedly be a most wise move on the part of our Board, if it should arrange for frequent visits, perhaps annual, to our Missions by one of the secretaries. I am of the opinion that such visits should be made periodically to all the Missions, but it would be more easily and inexpensively done in behalf of the ones in Mexico. At the last conference the So. Methodists divided their "Border Mission" into two parts, of which one, the Northwestern, covers almostly exactly the ground of our own (or planned to be our own,) and now Mr. Kilgore tells me that, to avoid the expense and trouble of crossing the mountains, they propose to organize a third as soon as possible, comprising Sinaloa, Lower California, and Southern Sonora. He remarked, when I asked him to leave us the city of Culiacán, where Bros. Crawford and Bissell arrived only one day after the local preacher (Mexican), and rented a house, and printed announcements of meetings, before that layman had done anything, that he could not do so, for it was the capital of the state, and their "system" obliged them to connect the lines so as to form compact circuits, and unite these again in conferences. When I reminded him that the population is still below the 15,000 limit named by the Assembly of Missions in Mexico City, he said the main object of that arrangement was to bring the Baptists to reason, but as they disregarded the rule, there was no longer any ground for respecting it, and that the rule had no legal force at any rate.
It is clear that the Meth's will not pay any attention to rules of "comity", when it suits their convenience to enter a place already occupied by us, and if we stay in Mexico, we shall have to act very much as we would in Home missions in the

6

U.S.

This brings me to the location of Bro.Bissell. Our conference voted to send him to open a new station on the west coast, as long contemplated, and authorized him and Mr.Crawford to make a tour of observation as a preliminary, supposing he would settle in Sinaloa, or at Alamos in southern Sonora. They went as far as Culiacán only,(knowing that the So.Meth. had a good preacher in Mazatlán,)in a steamer, and returned overland. Before reaching Hermosillo, Mr.Bissell wrote me a good letter, setting forth the comparative advantages in his own mind, of the two places Culiacán and El Fuerte, with a slight leaning to the latter, and much smaller and decayed, town, (while Culiacán is stirring and well built, like Chihuahua,) because the Meth. helper had entered the former, and because the people of the latter seemed more ready for the gospel. At the close he suggested that the letter make the rounds of the stations. I forwarded it, and it made upon others, as upon myself, the impression that El Fuerte would be the place, though I wrote to Bro.Bissell that we had a perfect right to Culiacán, and that he might at least spend a short time there on his way to the field, to feel the pulse of the people. Two days later came a letter from Bro.Crawford emphatically favoring Culiacán, and saying that Mr.Bissell did so at first. A vote was called for, and I at once sent in mine for C. Mr.Case favored El Fuente, saying that we might well let the Methodists work up Culiacán first, and later we might "go to their help, as they did in the case of Chihuahua". (Later, Mr.Case wrote to me "Another reason in my mind for believing that Mr.Bissell had best go to El Fuerte, is that I think he can do something there, whereas I should be in considerable doubt as to his success in the larger and more fanatical place. This argument I would not want to use except very privately, but positively I do not think Mr.B. ought to be asked to take up such a field as Culiacán.") So Mr.Case voted for ~~E.~~ El Fuerte, but said that if he thus made a tie, he would waive his preference, so that the Bissells might not be subject to embarrassing delay. Mr.Olds voted also for ~~E.~~ El Fuerte, but said that ~~it~~ Culiacán ought to be held as an out-station from the first, and that later it and El Fuerte ought to change places, Culiacán becoming the station. Mr. Wright voted next, strongly for Culiacán. Throwing out Mr. Crawford's vote as that of the one directly interested with Mr. Bissell, or admitting the votes of both the brethren, the result was a tie, though the ladies were five to two in favor of Culiacán. But now comes in the remarkable part of the story. The first vote, my own, was dated Mar. 2, and I tore the copy out of my letter book and sent it to Bro. Bissell, that he might know my views had been modified by the reading of Mr. Crawford's reports and positive reccommendations. The day after receiving this, Mar. 8, whereas yet he had received no expression of opinion from the other missionaries, as there had been no time for them to receive either his letter or Bro. Crawford's, he wrote me in a strain wholly different from his first communication, showing that he had become a strong partisan of El Fuerte. 2. He added: "The view that is taken of this subject raises a grave question as to the wisdom of our having come to this field. Certainly we cannot see any very urgent call to a small city where the double occupation (if we go there,) with the scandal it occasions among the Romanists, is to be accepted without question." His letter closes with, "We were shaping everything for departure on first steamer, probably about the 10th inst. We should most exceedingly regret any further delay, but we are astonished and filled with doubt by the turn affairs have taken. We look for clearer light than now appears." The next day he telegraphed me for more funds "at earliest moment", at the same time acknowledging receipt of the amount he had asked for. That he might not think I had interposed the slightest obstacle, I telegraphed what he asked for, before having received his letter, of course. There were delays in his getting news from Guaymas; but on the 13th Mr. Crawford wrote me that Bro. B. had "left suddenly" that morning for Guaymas, and that his family would follow him on the 15th, to take the first steamer, on their way to El Fuerte. They actually sailed on the 13th, when Mr. B. received the letter containing the votes at the last moment, and put in his contribution, but made no allusion to them further than to say, that "the object of discussion was conviction," "and in that" we had been successful", for we had brought out additional arguments for El Fuerte, which he had not thought of, and that some of the arg's for Culiacán appeared to him really to favor the other place.

I have thus sketched the situation for your information. In the Mission letter, I have cordially acquiesced in the move, expressing satisfaction that Bro.B. is so clear in his own mind that El Fuerte is open to the gospel, and hope that many may hear and accept his message. At the same time, I have proposed a Resolution, that we do not relinquish the idea of occupying Culiacán as soon as practicable, but hold it as an out-station if possible. And I have reminded the brethren as gently as possible, that usually the workers are located by vote of the Mission. When Mr.B. was here in the winter of 1887-8, he stayed in his room, scarcely coming out except to meetings in the same house. Mr.Crawford says that in Jalisco it was much the same, when he, C., was there. But the new work demands some activity, from the beginning and afterward. A word from you may furnish impulse in that direction.

In the conference, we hesitated to disturb Mr.Case's happy relations on his field, and Dr.Hitchcock advised against it, though very reluctantly, when asked his opinion. Some of us favored sending Mr.Olds to the new field, but we were out-voted. We could not take Mr.Wright from the Tr.School, and the Mission did not seem to favor a change in the treasurer's office at Chihuahua. So we sent Mr.B. to the west coast, as the best we could do; and we were glad to have him and his wife express interest at the prospect of new and inviting work.

It seems probable now that I shall stay here this summer, and devote the school vacation to changing the present chapel and school into improved quarters for the school alone. It will limit somewhat more the place for the congregation to meet; but we believe the new church will yet be secured, and we cannot let another year roll by without improving at least the school edifice.

We are holding extra meetings this "holy week", with large attendance. Mr. Olds is having another series in Cusi., in company with a native helper, and will visit other points next week. In May he hopes to settle in his field. He has been learning with Mr.Case, as you say. But Mr.B. has been in Mexico as long as I have, and longer than Mr.Case, and I do not think he would have welcomed the idea of learning from either of us.

It deeply grieves us to learn of the shadow hovering over your own home. In human strength alone you could not possibly carry on your heart the heavy burden of the missionary work over such wide fields, and impart to us so generously of your quick and intelligent sympathy and your wise counsel. Mrs.Eaton desires to be remembered to you with affectionate sympathy.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, April 11,1891.

Langdon S. Ward, Esq., Treas.
1 Somerset st., Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Accept my thanks for your note of the 30th ult., with copy of the letter dated Feb.28, and which explains the matter of the $3.20 appropriated by the Com. but not reported as an "item."

By the last mail I have returns of the sale of your check no.27690 ($600.) to a bank on the frontier, at the same rate as last time, viz., 1.28, making $768. Mexican. The anomalous condition of the market continues, for about the same time with this sale, a bank here sold to Cole Bros. $1,000. exchange at 1.27 and1/2.

We have at last decided to begin the building operations for the enlargement and betterment of the school here, without more delay, as it is important to get the roof on before the rains begin, often the last of June. Work commenced three days ago. Though the $1,500.00 promised by the Woman's Board, and which you have kindly offered to advance when called for, is a scant allowance for what ought to be done, the silver market is somewhat more favorable than it was a while ago, and we hope to eke out the sum by means of some small receipts for tuition. At all events, we shall endeavor to cut our garment according to the cloth. As Miss Prudden of New Haven writes us that the New Haven Branch has obtained from the Board the permission to devote her brother's legacy of $1,300. to this object, we of this station are not without hope that the Board may grant us this sum, instead of the $1,500 first named.

For the purchase of material, some $300 Mexican must at once be expended, and at short intervals, other smaller sums will be called for by the contractors; So you will please send me your check for $600, of the sum appropriated.

Very truly yours,

James D. Eaton
Treas.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, April 16,1891.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,
Boston,Mass.

My dear Dr.Clark:-

Your favor of the 23th ult.,enclosing copies of letters from the Misses Noyes and Danforth,was duly received. They did not give sufficient information to enable us to form an idea as to whether either one could fill the bill in this city. Undoubtedly Miss Noyes could not spend the long,hot summers in Hermosillo,feeling as she does. But as you suggested my writing to her,I have just done so,stating that the climate of this city,and that of Parral,is favorable to health,and that our need here is of a lady who can train teachers. I have also intimated that if she does not feel prepared for such work,perhaps Miss Prescott might consent to remain here,if some one were found to take her place in Parral. As between the two places,there can be no question that Miss P.is more needed here than she is in Parral. There she was teaching a more elementary kind of school,which a lady of less experience could manage;while here she is training several girls to be teachers,one of whom went to Atotonilco the last of January, to teach for a year,and let her predecessor return here for further study. The former will come back also at a later date to continue study. She is having fine success in At'o so far,having greatly stimulated attendance,not only upon the day school,but also at the religious meetings. Of course we wish to return Miss P. to Parral,if possible;but I think she would be quite resigned to the idea of remaining in the work here,especially if we make her a sort of superintendent of the various mission schools. She likes nothing better than to spend her vacations in visiting country schools,a form of recreation which very few lady teachers would be satisfied with !

We found that it would not be prudent to wait longer before beginning the work of rebuilding our school quarters,if we wished to have all in good shape to receive the summer rains,(Mr.Crawford on the west coast gets his rains in winter)

(2)

and so we began last week wednesday, the 5th inst.; and the school has found temporary quarters in a house near by. Most of our religious meetings are held in the chapel in the north part of the city meanwhile, one or two of the Sunday Sch. classes being accommodated in our own house. Probably about three months will be needed for the work, or a little more. This will keep me at home very closely for that time; but I am fortunate in having a very reliable Mexican, who has worked for me before, to do the main part of the work by contract.

Miss Prudden of New Haven writes to Mrs. Eaton that the New Haven Branch has obtained permission from the Woman's Board to devote her brother's legacy of $1800.00 to the building of this Chi's school. Can you not then secure this full amount of $1800, instead of the $1500 appropriated, for our purpose ? For even the larger sum will be very scant, as fully set forth in my letter to you of March 27. And as I wrote to Mr. Ward, when asking for the first remittance on this account, I propose to "cut our garment according to the cloth", and not be coming back upon the Board for supplementary grants. (we have not yet received the [illegible]) Even so we shall have to eke out the amount with sums from tuition etc.

Your and letter to our secretary, regarding the limits within which we are asked to confine ourselves in making the Estimates for next year, confirmed our worst fears. For I suppose that "$18,000" must mean in Mexican silver; otherwise it would be conceding us a very slight advance over this year. Every year so far in the history of this Mission, we have been granted an advance upon the preceding year, as made necessary by the growth of the work. To have denied us such advance this time, especially after sending us another miss'y family, would have been practically to cramp us to a very serious degree. But to cut us down, by the amount of $2,594.20, seems hard indeed. Deducting the bare salaries of the missionaries, that means a reduction of over thirty per cent upon what we are receiving this year. If we should dismiss all the native helpers, preachers and school teachers, we should still require more than the sum allowed. Or, we might close the boarding school here, and not begin the one in Hermosillo, to accommodate which the

Board has just expended a considerable sum, and dismiss all the young men in our training school, in order to save the Board's share of their support and of the salary of Mr. Wright, inviting him to return to the U.S. But either one of these alternative proposals, if adopted, would cut off half of all our visible works, aside from the personal labor of the missionaries. I say nothing now of the active competition of the M.E.ch.South on this field, referred to in my last letter, because that it a matter of secondary importance, but would only remind the Prud. Com. and the churches, that the work here is as yet so far undeveloped, that we cannot materially reduce expenditures, without losing much of the little ground already gained. To continue such a policy is to deprive us, either of the poorly furnished helpers we now have, or of the better ones we have hoped to raise up in our schools; or to reduce our slender contingent by a half in both directions. In any case, it postpones indefinitely the wished-for day of "self-support".

On one point I am perfectly clear; or I will say we four at this station are fully persuaded (we have not yet consulted the Mission); it is, that while the present stress continues, not another ordained missionary should be commissioned and sent to the foreign field. My companions here would add, nor another lady teacher, either. Perhaps an exception to a limited extent, might be made in their favor, as the additional expense involved in their support would not be much, aside from their salaries, when once on the field. And I would favor appointing enough new missionaries, to keep up the present number. But I, for one, would frankly say that I have no desire to remain here and draw my salary, with my hands tied; especially as my salary is considerably less than I was receiving in the U.S. I sympathise with Dr. Davis' feeling that he would rather resign and go home, so as to leave some native agency at work. Only I think my choice would be to engage in secular employment here, to earn my bread, and in the intervals of leisure do what miss'y work I could at my own charges. Then I could preach self-support, as I have desired to do before, with emphasis, imitating the example of "Paul, the missionary". Is this what the churches desire ?

Aside from the items I have named, nothing will admit of material reduction.

Mrs Eaton

Fraternally Yours,

James D. Eaton

But suppose we cut them all off.-Missionary Tours to visit our pastorless churches and preach the gospel in towns scattered over a territory larger than all Spain, Horses kept to visit points not reached by the railroad, Expenses of Annual Meeting, Delegate to the Western Mission, Printing and Tract Distribution, Postage and Exchange (chiefly in the Mission Treasurer's office,) Taxes, Repairs and Incidentals. The sum is $1841.20 The reduction is not enough by $753. Then cut off all rents at out-stations. Still the reduction is not enough. But I will not weary you with our plaints. I am sure you have foreseen in great part the extremity of our case, to which we shall be reduced by the request of the Prud. Com., unless diliverance shall arise from an unexpected quarter; and you have already expressed your deep sympathy with us. I only wish that the churches at home could realize the need as we see it, and then the people who have professed to "leave all to follow Christ", would at least be ready to adopt a method of "proportionate giving", that would fill our treasuries to over-flowing.

Regarding the Bissells, I am glad to say that since my last writing, the news from El Fuerte is encouraging, and we think that many there may be inclined to listen to the message. But with this terrible cutting down, how are we to encourage Bro. Bissell to branch out and visit other large towns, which have no missionary? Traveling in this country of magnificent distances, costs money.

In Mr. Bissell's report of expenses incurred in reaching his station, just made to me, I note an endeavor to limit them as much as possible, and a willingness to pay himself some accounts that others by a liberal construction would expect the "Board" to shoulder. E.g. He paid all of his hotel bills on the way, at Guaymas, Agiobampo, and El Fuerte, amounting to $50, whereas he would have been justified in asking the Board to meet a reasonable part of them, since they went beyond his salary. He also evidently met a part of such expenses on his first tour of exploration, as I should have done; for he reported to me only $78.83, while his traveling companion, Bro. Crawford, reported $98.04.

One bright ray is the sum of $550. gold sent for our new church by cousins of Mrs. Eaton.

Faithfully Yours.
James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, April 22,1891.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,
Boston,Mass.,

My dear Sir:-

"My cup runneth over". The closing sentence of my letter of the 16th inst.,about the "one bright ray",($550.from the Barneses,) now seems to have been a prophecy of the dawn. The next day,the 17th.,Mrs.Eaton and I were made very happy by the "gift of God",our dear little Dorothy,whose coming has been anxiously desired,-sound,well,vigorous,plump,beautiful. You have received the cards. And the day after that,the 18th.,came your letter of the 8th,bringing such good cheer. I could not venture to communicate its contents to Mrs.Eaton at the time; and so kept it till yesterday,when it was read over and over,not without tears.

The suggestion that we ask for $2,000 or $2,500,if judged needful to put the school quarters in good order,at first inclined me to put it in the application at once;but on further reflection,it seems wiser to limit ourselves to the $1,800 legacy,referred to in my last letter,or an advance of only $100 on the amount already appropriated. Our plans will permit of the erection of an "L" a year or two hence,or at any time,without disturbing what we do now,when the growth of the school may require it,and the funds are available. This may go on record,to be referred to,when that time comes.

It is good to hear of the favorable out-look for new teachers,whose coming will not involve expenses connected with the opening of new stations,but for whom places have been provided,both in Hermosillo and here.

But best of all is the news,that you propose soon to renew application for aid in the erection of the new church building,"at least for funds sufficient to purchase" the site. If that amount were secured now,it would furnish such a leverage to move family friends,that I should have strong hopes of being able to begin building in the fall,-with the possibility of dedicating the edifice at our next annual meeting,in this city in April 1892. Then I could go home for a few months' vacation, after ten years of service, with a light heart.

My letter of Nov.25,1900, contains all the arguments for the new church, on a new lot, which it seems worth while to present. That will remind you that $900 U.S. was asked for, to secure the lot. The Woman's Board might with perfect fairness be asked to contribute at least this amount, (in addition to the $1500,) as a scant compensation for the whole of the present chapel site, which now goes to the girls' school, doubling its area. Thus you might possibly get the indispensable sum for the new lot, to replace the old, from the ladies, and still call on the Prud.Com. for $1,000 or so, toward the building of the church.

To prepare the way for such an arrangement, I do not see that I can give help by a special letter; and so merely enclose a rough sketch of the premises in question.

In a former letter, I spoke of building only one story; but the lady teachers think it very important that the windows of the new dormitories should not be down near the side-walk; so we put on a second story for them, and make a large dining-room in their present quarters. There are many advantages in having the eating and the sleeping departments separated, in this climate where there is neither great cold nor much rain to make passing back and forth out of doors inconvenient.

With good hope, I am as ever,

Yours faithfully,

James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, April29,1891.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Your cheering letters of the 21st and 22nd inst. are at hand, and I shall at once inform my associates that the out-look, financially, for us is not so disheartening as we had supposed. This is good news indeed.

Then as to the school building,-I deeply appreciate your interested efforts on our behalf, even to the sending of Mrs. Clark to that meeting of the Woman's Board, and am very grateful for the additional grant of $500. Some embarrassment has been occasioned by the "crossing" of our letters on the subject; but I am willing to stand by my letters of the 16th and 22nd inst., getting along with the 1600 dollars asked for. Will it not be possible for me to put aside in bank the other $400, toward the new church? The sum is far less than the value of the site of the old chapel now turned over to the school, as referred to in my last. Besides, one of the ways in which I "eke out" the funds for this rebuilding, is by the sale of some old material, which may bring in a hundred dollars. Strictly, this sum should be saved for the new church; but I have been hoping to get it replaced by family friends, when the need should occur. I await instructions.

Is it about time for that friendly organ manufacturer to present another instrument to the Board ? The Bissells have none of their own, but are anxious to secure one for the new station in the state of Sinaloa, as Mrs. B. can play. If an instrument were donated, perhaps the Board would be willing to pay the freight and duties. Mr. Case thought that perhaps amongst ourselves and the little churches we might be able to raise enough to get another "baby organ"; but a larger instrument would be far preferable at a central station, and would last longer.

You have received the card announcement of the great happiness. Yes, I referred to this ingredient in our large cup of joy that "runneth over", in my last. Mrs. Eaton and little Dorothy continue well. Yesterday being my wife's birth-day she was in the parlor to receive calls.

As ever yours,
James D. Eaton.

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, May 12, 1891.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Clark:-

Your letter of April 28, repeating the assurance that the Woman's Board will furnish the additional $500 for our school enlargement, has encouraged me to adopt some improvements in construction which will make the building more attractive, and at the same time more substantial. We are very grateful for this generous help.

As to the best time for beginning a residence in this climate, I should approve the advice given by Dr. Paschal of this city in 1882, which favored coming soon after the beginning of the rains, in July, when the dry heat is modified. There will then be experienced a steady improvement in healthfulness and agreeableness of climate for almost half a year, and the system will become fortified to resist more successfully the unfavorable influences of the first spring and early summer, the next year. Of course the month of September would be more agreeable, and would do very well; but one coming in July or August would have just so much more time for becoming acclimated, and wouldgain time for the study of the language. The Wrights arrived in this city July 2nd., and I never heard of their regretting it, and they have not had to leave for reasons of health. Mr. Dutton arrived in the spring, and was seriously ill that first summer, with bowel trouble. The following summer he died of the small-pox. Our school year opens August 1.

Mrs. Eaton is getting on famously, far better than when she was in the U.S., and she finds that her lady friends here have had similar experience. All agree that the climate favors motherhood.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, May 14,1891.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,
Boston,Mass.

My dear Sir:-

The day before yesterday I wrote you of some improvements adopted in our school building on the strength of the generous provision made by the Woman's Board. One thing was my giving the order,yesterday,for two iron pillars to stand in the middle of the main assembly room,supporting a second-story wall,instead of two stone columns which would have been nearly two feet square,seriously obstructing the view of,and from,the platform,and occupying valuable space. I still hope to have something saved toward the chapel fund from this appropriation.

Yesterday our wedding anniversary was celebrated in a very unexpected manner by the receipt of yours of the 8th inst.containing the glorious news of the appropriation"for the purchase of the site of the proposed church in Chihuahua." This settles the question of the ownership of the building according to my preference,and clears the ground somewhat for appeals to a few foreign residents here for help,as well as to some of our relatives.

It has been a wonderful series of letters received from you,-five weighty ones between April 18 and May 13,regarding school building,teachers,appropriations for next year,and the new church. The accumulation of good tidings has been well-nigh overwhelming,after the previous disappointments,and it makes me feel almost ashamed to receive so much when the needs are pressing elsewhere too. Oh that all may experience similar relief,through the continued generosity of Christians who hear the Lord's call !

And you encourage me to think that perhaps another $1,000 may come a little later for the building. I think that would decide us to begin construction in the fall,hoping to finish in time for the annual meeting in this city next April. What a grand occasion that would be ! Although as I wrote you,a furlough would be more enjoyable after the securing of both new buildings,I realize that there are two strong arguments in favor of taking it before erecting the church edifice, rather than after, viz. (1) It would be very desirable to remain on the ground after the dedication, so as to hold the vantage gained by the occupancy of an attractive building. For we are sure of drawing at the first a considerable number of new hearers, and I hope to some extent, from the more inteligent classes who were not attracted to the humble chapel that bore no resemblance to an ecclesiastical edifice.

(2) It would be helpful to be able to examine some small, convenient churches, talk with architects about changes and adaptations, and make selection of certain classes of material. For example, the "duty" and freight on stained glass, (and these two items generally form the larger part of the cost of anything we get in this country, imported,) are the same as on clear glass. My impression is that at the present time the difference in cost between the two would not be a large sum, i.e. for a very simple kind of "stained glass"; and the saving in the cost of wooden shutters or blinds, (also very expensive here,) which would otherwise be needed to temper the glaring light of this climate, might almost meet the difference.

I had thought of the possibility of going north August 1, after completing the school building, to be absent about three months. I should be very grateful for any suggestion from you in regard to this matter. Perhaps we may find, after all, that it will not be prudent to travel with "Dorothy" so soon, as thus far she cannot get all the nourishment she needs from her mother.

May I ask if you are likely to make a long stay "abroad" in connection with the London Council ?

Gratefully yours,

James D. Eaton

American Board.
Mission to Northern Mexico
Chihuahua, May 22,1891.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,
Boston,Mass.

My dear Sir:-

These are days of glad tidings for Chihuahua. Just one week after your last letter,came a joyous communication from Sec.A.N.Hitchcock,reporting the fruits of his endeavor to fulfill the obligation assued by him,immediately after his visit here,to raise,if possible,the money necessary to buy the church lot. He says that the wife of Dr.Eli Corwin,"coming out of the shadow of a great affliction",has pledged as a thank offering,$450 toward this object. Then he felt moved to lay the matter before the young church at Ridgeland,which swarmed from the one in Oak Park,of which my brother Edward was pastor for six years,before going to Beloit, and ask for an extra offering,they not having expected to make another in this fiscal year of the Board. The prospect at first was not very flattering;but as he drew a plan of the mission premises,and the relative position of the new lot,the interest developed into enthusiasm,and somewhat more than $550 was pledged,making a fraction over $1,000. He adds;"I am sure that this will greatly attach the Ridgeland church to the work at Chihuahua."

This letter reached me just the day before our annual church meeting,for which I had saved your letter as the central attraction. The effect of it all was inspiring; and the brethren proposed to send a letter of thanks to the Ridgeland church,together with the names of all those who were present to hear the good news. One brother did not want us to forget for a moment that all this joy was the gift of our heavenly Father,and he got us to sing on the instant a hymn of praise to the Trinity,which is set to "America" in our hymn book.

When the Prud.Com.last ~~autumn~~ winter did not feel able to make the preliminary appropriation for the purchase of the lot,I told Dr.Hitchcock that it was possible the new church might not be the property of the Board, but that if he could secure the sum proposed,that would determine the question of ownership; and to this he alludes in his last letter. As the phraseology of the $1,000, special grant from the Board, May 5th, "to relieve such necessities as etc.", does not actually suggest the purchase of the lot, I presume that no further action of the Committee is needed to authorize the expenditure of the money in the construction of the building itself, in aid of which the Mission voted last fall to endorse the application for funds, to buy the land, and in addition furnish $2,500 toward the cost of the edifice. This is another indication that it will be wise to begin building in the fall, so as to have the church ready for the annual meeting of the Mission in the Spring of next year, - especially if the Committee should feel warranted a little later in providing that further aid alluded to in your letter.

"My cup runneth over".

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton

P.S. I wrote you on the 14th inst.

Roscoe, Ills. Aug. 29. 1891.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,
My dear Sir:—

Several brief letters of yours to me have remained unanswered because of your absence from the U.S., and now I hope before long to meet you face to face, as my journey Eastward will be resumed within two days.

The days immediately preceding and following the meeting in Pittsfield would not be convenient for you to grant an interview, and I write to learn what date would best suit you.

The first half of Sept. I shall be kept pretty busy in New Jersey. On the 16th. I am desired to attend a rally of Mission Circles & Y.P.S.C.E's in Canaan, Conn., and had thought to go to Boston soon after. Would Friday, Sept. 18, be a favorable time for yourself? If so, please name place and hour.

During our "stop over" in the vicinity of Chicago, I have been privileged to speak, on Mexico, to the churches of Rev. Messrs. Hamlin of Beloit. Wis, Barrows of Rockford Ill, Bartlett of Ridgeland, Whittlesey of Evanston, and my father here. In Ridgland, E.W. Blatchford, Esq. attended both services, - sermon & lecture. As Mrs. Eaton cannot attend the meeting of the W.B.M.I. at Omaha. Oct. 22-25, Miss Mary Porter desir me to speak for Mexico at that time, bu I have not been able to make a definite engagement yet, as the date for my retu to Chihuahua is not yet determined, tho' I aim to be back on the field about Nov. 1st.

Hoping to hear of your safe return over sea, in good health also, I remain

Very truly yours,
James D. Eaton.
Montclair
N. J.

Ansd EB —
Rec'd Sept. 1. 1891

Montclair N. J. Sept. 12. 1891.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:—

Your favors of Aug. 11 & 15, reporting payments on a/c of pledges by the Ridgeland club, were duly received via Chihuahua. Miss Lena Brokaw learned from us that lady missionaries were not expected to enlist for one school year at a time, and wrote that then her parents absolutely refused to let her go. Had she not read the "Manual for Missy Candidates"?

To your inquiry regarding "Studies in the Scriptures" (letter of Aug. 28th) I cannot respond, as I have not received here the copies referred to.

Yours of Sept. 2 reports gift of $12. from Meredith, N.H. for Bible work. I have acknowledged to Mr. Clough his kindness.

Would that I might attend the farewell meeting, on the 16th: but I have promised to be in Canaan Ct. on that day. Sunday the 20th. I have to be here; but hope to call upon you on Tuesday or Wednesday following, the 22d or 23d, unless you tell me you expect to be away from Boston at that time.

We were very sorry to hear of recent illness, and hope you may be able to recover full strength for the annual meeting.

Mrs. Eaton will not be able to accompany me, but sends affectionate greetings, and is grateful for the tender of hospitality by Mrs. Clark and yourself.

As ever Yours,
James D. Eaton.

P.S.

You will kindly bear in mind that the new teacher for Chihuahua should be acquainted with normal methods, so as to train teachers for schools, public and private.
E.

Rec'd Apl 28 '87

Montclair N. J. Sept 14/91

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:—

Referring to my letter of the 12th inst:— as it seems important to be in this vicinity next week, I shall try to see you on Thursday or Friday, the 17th or 18th, as suggested in an earlier note.

Very truly Yours.

James D. Eaton.

F. D. Fulton

Rec'd Sept. 14.

The Congregational Association of New Jersey.

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE.

To the Churches of the New Jersey Association :

Dear Brethren:—

The replies to our circular letter endorsing the call of the American Board for a week of simultaneous meetings in the interest of Foreign Missions, Sept. 27—Oct. 4, have been very encouraging. The churches are entering into the movement heartily; and it is pleasant to learn that the same enthusiasm prevails among the Congregational Churches in other parts of the country. Many special services have been arranged by your committee, and Secretary Daniels of the Board, with the missionary force at our command, will be kept busy all the week.

The general observance of the week being thus assured, the Committee wish to lay before you a definite object to be achieved, viz., *a sufficient increase of contributions to support for one year Rev. James D. Eaton, Missionary of the Board at Chihuahua, Mexico.* This will require an increase over last year's contributions of only *twelve cents* per member among the churches of our Association. Brethren, is not this a small enough increase in view of this great work of the world's evangelization? Let us aim at this much at least by means of a special collection during the week.

Some churches may not be able to give as much as that in addition to their regular contributions; some can give much more; but let all have a share in this work; so that we can claim Mr. Eaton as *our missionary.* He is already a member of our Association, having gone to Mexico from the Bound Brook Church; and the testimony of Sec. N. G. Clark in regard to him is, "There is no better missionary in the entire foreign field than James D. Eaton."

In order that we may report as to the success of this special effort, will the Pastors please see that the extra contributions of the week are forwarded to the Board for "The Eaton Fund." The Missionary Herald will record them as such.

Wishing all the churches a blessed week of prayer and conference for the work of Foreign Missions, we remain,

Fraternally yours,

Rev. C. H. Patton, Westfield, N. J.
Rev. E. A. Lawrence, Baltimore, Md.
Rev. C. A. Savage, Orange, N. J.
Committee.

Sept. 24th, 1891.

New J. Sept. 24. 1891.

Montclair, N.J. Sept. 25. 1891.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Enclosed you will find list of prices in Chihuahua City, which makes rather interesting reading! Please send the same to Mr. Ward!

The estimates for 1892 were mailed in a letter to Mr. W. on July 24.

My lecture on Mexico, Sunday night last, to Dr. Bradford's people, was heard by a very full house; and I am asked to occupy all the time of the S.S. review lesson Sept. 27, in a talk to his S. School.

On Friday last Mrs. Prof. Jos. Emerson took me to lunch with her; and not until we were in the horse-car, did I remember that you would not be in your office in the afternoon, so my goodbye words were only thought, not said. I have the most delightful memories of that day in your home.

Please give my best regards to Mrs. Clark, and to Mr. & Mrs. Rollins, & the granddaughter if she is still with you.

Gratefully Yours,
James D. Eaton.

Montclair Sept. 25, '91.

Rec'd Sept. 26.

Prices in the city of Chihuahua, in 1891, in silver coin. (The dollar about equal to eighty cents in U.S. cy.)

Beef, all parts of animal, with bone,	.08⅓	lb.
Mutton and Pork,	.12½	"
Ham & sausage, imported,	.50	"
Chickens, very small 25¢; grown	.50 to .75	each.
Eggs, small,	.30 to .75	doz.
Butter (native, for short season, 50¢)	.75	lb.
Cheese (native, very poor. 25¢)	.45	"
Lard, native,	.25 to .37½	"
Candles,	.25	"
Kerosene Oil (in 1882 \$2.00)	.50	gal.
Vinegar, native (imported in '82 \$2.00)	.90	"
Wheat Flour 6¢ lb: Graham do	.05	lb.
Oat Meal (in bulk 12½¢) in packages	.18¾	"
Hominy 18¾¢; Maccaroni,	.31 to .45	"
Soda Crackers 30¢; Fancy do	.50	"
Codfish 31¢: Fresh Fish on ice	.50	"
Tinned salmon, lobster &c., can	.45	can
" Oysters on ice (in 1882 \$2.00)	1.00	quart
Fish, fresh native, in Lent.	.18 to .37½	lb.
Milk; fresh 10¢ to 20¢ qt.; condensed do .55	6.00	dozen
Tinned Tomatoes 62½¢; Peaches	.75	each.
Coffee, native, green, 30 to 35¢; Chocolate	.75 to 1.00	lb.
Tea (in 1882 \$3.00+)	.75 to 2.00	"
Sugar, native 13¢; granulated	.31	"
Dried Fruits,	.37 to .50	"

Dried Fruits, native, dirty, .25 to .30 lb.
Oranges, 3 to 8¢ each; Lemons 6¢; Limes 2 to 3¢.
Bananas 5 to 6¢; Pine-apples 37 to 50¢
Apples, from U.S.A. .18¾ lb.
Small fruits, from U.S.A. .40 to .50 "
Potatoes, sweet, native, .03 to .08 "
do Irish, native, short season, .05 to .10 "
do do imported .08 to .10 "
Indian Corn, 1.00 to 1.50 bushe
Beans, 1.80 to 2.40 "
Brooms, each, 50¢ to 1.00; Pails, wooden, .75
Glass, Crockery, Tin & Hard-ware, 2½ to 3 times U.S. pr
Nails (in 1882 = 37½¢) .18¾ lb.
Drugs & medicines, more than double U.S. price
Calico & Gingham, yard of 33 inches, .25
Domestic, " " " " .25
Native coarse cotton cloth " " " .18¾
Silks, broadcloth & casimeres, a little higher than in
Ready-made clothing, under-wear, collars, cuffs, handkfs, shoes, hats & notions, about double the U.S. prices.

Ready-made clothing &c. may be imported through the mails; but as it pays 16¢ lb. postage and the "duty", the cost in Mexico is still great.

James D. Eaton
Treas. No. Mexico Mission

Rec'd Sept. 20. 91

My address, till near the meeting at Pittsfield, will be 372 Orange St, New Haven, Conn.

Montclair, N.J. Oct. 2. 1891.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark

My dear Sir:-

Your favors of the 24th. & 28th. ult. are at hand. It is very kind of you to propose an increase of salary to $1,500.00; but I could not consent to the making of any seeming distinction in my favor, as compared with others of our Mission. And a general increase could not be made within the sum named for the work in 1892, without necessitating, of course, a reduction in other items yet more essential. True, Messrs. Case, Crawford, Bissell & Olds do not have to "entertain" so much; but I suppose that Bro. Wright at the border, has to show as much hospitality.

I am having a glorious week of speaking for Mexico (Montclair, Orange, Newark, Jersey City, Westfield, Bound Brook, Philadelphia & Germantown,) and feel as if I should like to keep up the picnic for several months! My theme is very new to the people.

Yours as ever

James D. Eaton.

~~J. C. Cavanaugh~~
~~Oct. 1891~~
~~Witness for~~
Oct 2. 1891.
~~[illegible]~~
J. D. Eaton —

Montclair. N.J. Nov. 6. 1891.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark

My dear Sir:-

You will be receiving a letter about this time from Bro. Case, Secy of the Mission, asking whether it was your thought that the $500. special, granted last summer, would be devoted to the new church building in Chihuahua. I was at fault in not suggesting this to the brethren at the first, when the vote of the Com. said nothing of any special object.

Hoping to hear that the way is opening for Rev. Frank Borton to join us. I remain

Sincerely & gratefully Yours.

James D. Eaton.

Rev. James D. Eaton.

Montclair, Nov. 6, 1891

Rec'd Nov. 7

Montclair. N.J. Nov. 14. 1891.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark.
Boston. Mass.

My dear Sir:- The enclosed speaks or itself: & I doubt not the permission to make a transfer, as suggested, will ladly be granted, - to be included in my Treasurer's report Jany 1. 1892.

My plan now is to leave for Mexico, lone, on Friday Nov. 27, spending the next unday in Cleveland. Ohio.

It will not be possible to get our paper, "El Testigo", moved from Guadalajara by the end of this year; so perhaps Mr. Wright can get along until the new man is secured, allowing Mr. Olds to settle at his station, Cusihuiriachic, without further delay. But you will in due time receive a letter from the Mission, asking for the printing outfit, of which we talked in W. Roxbury. The students in Juarez cannot any too soon get to work at printing, so as to be ready to receive the paper, which Bro. Howland, as well as the most of us, (and all, if the new man be secured in time) think should soon be transferred to Juarez.

Very truly Yours,

James D. Eaton.

J. D. Eaton
Apl 14 1871
Chihuahua

Montclair N.J. Nov. 24/91

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark

My dear Sir:—

Many thanks for your favor of the 17th. My departure for Mexico has been delayed a week, chiefly for the reason explained below.

Rev. Frank Boston was offered the position of pastor of the English-speaking M.E. congregation in Mexico City; but we wrote him that that was not a work which would be likely to suit him. As no further word has come to us, we think he has not yet determined upon the course to follow.

Referring to the proposed adoption by the Montclair church, of my wife and myself as their missionaries, I may be permitted to say that the advantages of the movement would seem

e more apparent than real. (1.) The
stituency of our Mission would be nar-
ed, rather than broadened: for the Phil'a
urch already maintains Miss Dun-
ng. The New Haven ladies have
bly seconded Mrs. Eaton's efforts, and
should miss their active and in-
lligent sympathy and coöperation.
ey do not favor the transfer, as I
nderstand, but would reluctantly
nsent to it, from a sense of
hat the interests of the work seemed
demand.

(2.) The current year does not prove
be a favorable time for largely in-
reasing the contributions from this
hurch, which is spending $8,000.00
ore than was expected in the en-
rgement of its edifice, and is in debt
esides. Its late offering (trum-
ted at Pittsfield, as "double or treble
at of last year,") did not exceed $800-
which $150- were distinctly marked
the donors "for the Chihuahua Chih

lding"; and I am informed that a e share of the rest was given with understanding that it was to go to same object, for which Mrs. Eaton made a touching plea. But we e declined to favor what might n to be a diversion from the funds ded to meet the Board's regular appropriations.

Three days ago, in response to y suggestion that the status quo be aintained for at least another year, cause of the difficulty of making up e $1320 salary (or $1500 possibly) Rev. r. Bradford told me that it was iscovered, at the late annual meeting in Westfield, N.J. that "the Philadelphia ranch would have a surplus;" so at the ladies of his church could urn their offerings into the new channel, and thus the whole salary be raised with ease!

(3.) Further, we see no particular-

eson why the Montclair Church
ould now be invited to call us
eir missionaries." During the
ine years of our life in Chihuahua
have never received a letter or a message
om the church as a body; though I
told that on the occasion of the
th. anniversary, it was voted to send
eetings to the absent members in
exico. No word ever came.

Even now the committee of the
urch have not thought their pulpit
hould be occupied by any one but
eir pastor for these three Sundays,
viz Nov. 15. 22 & 29.) following their re-oc-
upation of the renovated edifice, because
e renting of the pews occurred Nov. 17.
o that Dr. Bradford had to recall his
revious offer to me, of the pulpit "for the
second Sunday after getting into the
hurch" for the purpose of hearing more
ully of our work. For that ad-
dress I had reserved the 22d, so that

(5)

as a disappointment on Saturday to
d myself shelved. But the First
esbyterian and the Methodist Churches
proved the chance, & kept me busy
l day Sunday.

True, the Cong^{l} people have ar-
nged a ~~church~~ Sociable for us to-
ght; and this morning I am in-
ted by Dr. Bradford to speak next Sun-
y, notwithstanding the action of the com-
ttee. But it is too late. I have
omised to be with friends in Cleve-
nd. O. that day; and during the week in
eloit, Roscoe, Ridgeland & Chicago: - and
hen, on to Mexico.

Mrs. Eaton's father feels that
is church is taking us up, now
at the work in Northern Mexico has
assed the stage of experiment, rather
or its own glorification than from
ny deep interest in what claims
ir love and labor.

We shall most heartily accept
whatever your own judgment approves.

We believe that Dr. Bradford aims
do the best he can with his church,
d we have no grievance against
y one. But it seemed to us
est to let you know how the case
tands. Nov. 14 I wrote you endorsing
r. Case's suggestion as to the use of
small unexpended balance of the
propriation for Parral station.
We should know your decision before
y semi-annual Treasurer's bal-
ance sheet is made up.

As ever Yours,
James D. Eaton

American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, Jan.8,1892.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

Boston,Mass

My dear Sir:-

Your kind letter of ~~Dec.2~~ Nov.28 reached me in Beloit,Wis.,and here on the field I have received those of Dec.4 and 15,for all which please accept many thanks. It was at the meeting of the Cong'l Club,on my last night in Boston,that I proposed to Dr.Webb the plan of visiting us on his return from Cal.in the Spring. Since hearing from you,I have written him,[as,indeed,he made me promise to do,to send him later advices,] to see whether he cannot attend our annual mission conference,in April,or at least witness the strange festivities of Passion Week here.

A Miss Holcomb,who is now teaching in the kinder-garten department of the public schools in Montclair,is likely to return with Mrs.Eaton as our teacher for Chihuahua. This same lady answered an article of mine in the N.Y.Independent,of last January,in which mention was made of our need of teachers;but nothing further came of it at that time. Only a little while before I left Montclair,I met Miss Holcomb,(at the farewell reception held in Dr.Bradford's church)who had but just learned that I was the writer of the article that attracted her attention.

When in Chicago,I talked with Sec.Hitchcock about the kind of man we need for the Tr.School,and have strong hopes that he will help us to find the right one. He himself has been here,has met all the missionaries,and has already given very substantial proof of his interest in this work.

It was a privilege to address the students of Beloit College and of Chicago Sem. At the latter place they gave me three quarters of an hour, and when I finished,several members of the faculty asked me to make an appointment to "come again soon." I laid about fifty copies of Mr.Case's essay, on the "Growth of Evangelistic Work in the No.Mex.Mission" on the desk, for the students to help themselves, and all disappeared in an incredibly short space of time.

The Ridgeland church gave me a very pleasant evening reception, and I spent the whole of one Sunday with the Oak Park people, by the pastor's invitation speaking for Mexico at both services.

In El Paso, I spent three and a half days, helping to dedicate a little chapel on the American side, [of which I have sent brief reports to the Herald and the Advance,] hearing classes in the training school, [which is in a very prosperous condition, seemingly,] and settling some back accounts with Bro. Wright.

It was good to get back to the people here, who have shown great fidelity in attendance at services conducted by native brethren, and they seem to be in good heart for future work. But by the almost total failure of the corn and bean crops in this region last year, the price of living is much higher for the natives, and there is likely to be considerable suffering amongst them. The Misses Dunning and Prescott have justified their reputation for being brave and true "assistant missionaries"; and during all our absence in the U.S. Miss Dunning wrote us such cheery letters as it was a delight to receive. They were in blessed contrast to the queer ones penned by Miss Ferris, when we were in Lancaster, Wis. five and a half years ago, and which made us feel as if we must turn right around and hasten home to set things straight.

After a very cold snap in Dec., we are having mild weather this early part of the year, and the meetings of the week of prayer are fully attended and of great interest, a number of persons taking part, whose voices have seldom been heard. In this city, our Christmas celebration is always strictly a religious one, and this year I showed with the sciopticon some fifteen views illustrating the nativity and the early life of our Lord. The attendance was large, a number being strangers to us, and the attention was close and reverent.

We are very grateful for the circumstances which made it possible for the Prud. Com. to appropriate enough to cover our few "Contingents", and we hope that large spiritual blessing may descend upon all alike,missionaries and native brethren, and that many redeemed souls may come to know Christ as their Savior in this land,and in this year.

From what Bro.Howland writes of the amount he has been receiving for the work in western Mexico,and what he was led by yourself to expect for the coming year, I think there must have been some clerical error,or over-sight,committed in adding the sum for his field,to our appropriations for the northern region. It is not reasonable to suppose that he would be cut down a half,or more than a half, [aside from the salaries of himself and Miss Haskins,] while you cut us down only twenty per cent from what you thought we ought to have,and have since granted the contingents.

Probably a further adjustment of salaries will have to be effected,because the cost of living in Guadalajara is much less than it is here. The scale of wages is an indication. Bro.Howland tells me he paid for peon labor on his chapel only twenty-five cts.per day,and not more than seventy-five cents to the masons. We paid here,on the school building,at same time,[and it was the same in 1890,] sixty-two and a half cts.to peons,and $1.50 to $1.75 to masons. We might treat of this at our Conference.

This letter should have been written before;but I have been toiling almost day and night in order to get through the accumulated work. The hardest pressure is now past,though the coming weeks will be crowded full,especially as I shall spend the last week in January and the first in Feb.in helping Bro.Case to dedicate the chapel in Las Cuevas,and hold a series of meetings there,look at property in Parral,and preach and administer the sacraments in Atotonilco,which I have not visited since last July. As as the Conference meets here,I have to arrange all the program,with the help of Miss Dunning,;and I want to get that new church under way as soon as possible;for at the rate the gifts are coming in,I have no question at all that it will be built,and that speedily. I shall therefore give the word to begin,just as soon as satisfactory contracts can be made.

Hoping you are well, I am
Faithfully Yours,
James D. Eat

American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, Jan.22,1892.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,
Boston,Mass.

My dear Sir:-

It gives me pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your favors of the 11th and 14th inst.,regarding a further payment of pledges on the part of the Ridgeland church,and about funds for Guadalajara. I had previously written to Messrs.Wright,Crawford and Bissell,announcing the vote which included the contingents,but have now informed them not to spend anything on that account until further word shall have been received. But your postscript,reporting a special of $221 from Fall River,encourages me to hope,as do you,that in a little time all may be provided for. Mr.Crawford and Mr.Bissell had already answered my letter, asking advice regarding the employing of certain persons covered by the contingents; and I know Mr.Wright needs all he can get ,as he has just declined to receive an applicant from this church,for admission to the training school,saying they are already full,till further provision can be made.

It caused me surprise to hear that Mr.Howland had not sent you detailed reports and estimates for a year or two past;for I had supposed that he was accustomed to manage things in a businesslike manner.

Dr.Bradford has written me a good letter from Montclair,answering one I sent him just after my return here,and at the same time promising help for the new church inside of two or three months.

We are sorry to hear that La Grippe did not leave you alone. There are many cases in this city also,but generally of a mild type.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, Feb.12,1892.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

Boston,Mass.

My dear Sir:- It brought real relief to hear by your favor of Jan.18,as well as by the copy of yours to Mr.Case,that after all,our contingents,and Bro.Howland's needs will undoubtedly be met. I have so informed the brethren.

Today I send to Editor Strong an account of the dedication of the new church in Las Cuevas,the first building of the kind erected by natives in Mexico in connection with our Board,and an experience not duplicated many times by other denominations.

Two weeks from today I am to go to El Paso,to assist in organizing a Mexican church on that side of the river,to occupy the house we dedicated there in Dec. Five of the members take letters from our church in this city.

From there I have to go on to Albuquerque,N.M.,by urgent invitation,to attend Association of New Mexico and Arizona,March 2 and 3,and preach the installation sermon for Rev.A.B.Cristy,-the only sermon that will be given,says E.Lyman Hood. Mrs.Eaton now plans to hasten her departure from the East,so as to take advantage of my going so far along her line of travel,to join me there,and return to this city early in March. Our physician says she ought to bring our baby daughter back before the warm weather of April,or wait till after the rains in July or Aug.

She writes just now of meeting another lady teacher even better fitted,apparently than Miss Holcomb,and who has taught for several years in Central America,in non-mission schools,and so knows the Spanish, who may ask to be sent here,or elsewhere on our field. I do not yet hear whether Miss Holcomb has been commissioned.

In Atotonilco Jan.26 and 27,I had crowded meetings,showing religious views for the first time,with the sciopticon, and received three new members,and baptized infants. To the N.Y."Independent" I have just sent account of Mr.Crawford's peril in Hermosillo,because of murder committed by a so-called "protestant".

Faithfully Yours,
James D. Eaton.

American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, Mar.18,1892.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Clark:-

Your kind letter of the 27th ult.was received here,on my return with Mrs.Eaton and our daughter Dorothy,who joined me in Las Vegas N.M.,as had been planned. It is plain that you do not think it best to attempt at present to secure any further aid from the Board for our church building; and you do not allude to my inquiry as to whether the Board might advance as a loan,at low interest or without interest,what may be necessary to carry the enterprise through without serious interruption. Therefore I have today asked Mr.Ward whether it would be allowable for me to draw upon him ,in case of pressing need, so that the balance against me as mission treasurer on the first of July next,might be larger than usual. I have always managed,in past years,to have that balance very small; once or twice the balance has even been in my favor.

The contract has been let,and on yesterday I ordered the first lot of material,-more than a thousand dollars'worth of lumber. As the walls are to be of "adobe",with cut stone trimmings,it is absolutely necessary that they should be covered with the roof,before the rains of summer come to wash them down. But when this is done,by far the larger part of the expense will have been incurred, since only the floor and ceiling will be lacking,[the sash and glass having been ordered in New York in Dec.last,] and you know we do not plan to have pews; so that I could hardly entertain the idea of suspending operations when so near the completion of the work.

One other point. Would there be any objection from the Board to the idea of making the new church a memorial to Mrs.Eaton's mother,Mrs-Julius H.Pratt, whose memory is so highly revered by the Montclair people,irrespective of denomination? Two or three thousand dollars at least are to come from her friends in that place, and something like another thousand has already been paid over to me by her nephews and nieces,-most of these sums having been given with the desire and the expectation of erecting a memorial of this kind. Mrs.Pratt was very happy in being permitted to give her daughter to this work, as you may remember, and and her manifestation of interest in the enterprise, from the beginning, was remarkably intelligent. She carried in her memory the names of natives she had never seen, and from her point of observation, three thousand miles away, sent suggestion and advice of great value to us. Her letters were full of the subject so near her heart, and they seemed to us at times almost like the orders of a general directing the movements of his troops.

It was a disappointment to learn this morning, by a letter from Mr.Wright, that Mr.Dexter's application for appointment to the work in Juarez, had been denied. I have become almost ashamed to face the little bands of Christians in the sierra region with excuses for not sending to them yet the promised missionary. Last week I had a most moving letter from Cusihuiriáchic, detailing the progress of the work there, through the blessing of God upon the efforts of the natives. A score of persons desire to be baptized as soon as we can go to them. That whole mountain region is one of great promise; it too furnishes the connecting link between the stations in this State and those in Sonora and Sinaloa on the west; and it is the center from which work must be undertaken probably, if ever, in behalf of the many thousands of Indians ~~tribes~~ who do not speak the Spanish and are "pagan" enough to satisfy any supporters of the Board's work.

Dr.Webb passed through this city this morning, I suppose, (though I had not received word in time to greet him at the station) on his way to Guadalajara and the City of Mexico, expecting to spend three or four days of the conference with us here on his return. He had two days in El Paso.

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, April 9, 1892.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec.

Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Your kind letters of the 25th and 30th ult. were duly received, - the latter, of course, after all of our brethren had started on their return journey from the Conference, although you seemed to think that it would be in season to find us still in session. It was a great privilege to have Dr. Webb with us for four days; and although the weather was quite unfavorable, with disagreeable windy days, he was able to see something of the city and its people, outside of our own meetings, and he was evidently very much interested. Especially was he delighted with the location of the lot on which the new church has begun to rise, and he announced his thorough conversion to the principle of providing respectable houses of worship in this land where the great Roman Catholic edifices dominate everything. On last Sunday afternoon he preached in English; and altho a dust storm prevented many Americans from attending the service, all those who came with the missionaries, were profoundly grateful for his instructive and inspiring words. Some were deeply moved, as their manner showed. On the previous Friday evening he addressed the native brethren at length, with my help as interpreter, and all hung upon his words, and could not bear to have him stop speaking. On Sunday night he assisted at the Lord's Table, and uttered farewell words, also through interpreter. His visit has given a most helpful impulse to all of us, and we can never be grateful enough that his winter's sojourn on the Pacific coast enabled him to make this trip into Mexico, in an unofficial capacity. Our Mission voted unanimously to ask the Board to send us their official representative each year, - to be present at our annual meeting, if practicable. The next will be held in Guadalajara. I advocated this for the purpose of strengthening the

Chihuahua, March 18, 1892

hands of Bro.Howland as much as possible, and to prevent the work in Jalisco, from becoming in any sense the tail end of Northern Mexico. We also voted unanimously to continue publishing El Testigo in Guadalajara, at least for the present. It undoubtedly helps the circulation of the paper to have it ussued from a leading city, instead of proceeding from the frontier town of El Paso. And we do not see how the enterprise could be carried on successfully at the latter point, for some time to come, unless indeed we could move Bro.Howland himself to that place, to have charge of the training school and of the paper at the same time, -as Bro.Bissell would like to see done. But we have no man of the right stamp that could be sent to take Mr.Howland's place.

With the exception of Messrs.Wright and Olds, it is the unanimous opinion of the missionaries, both ladies and gentlemen, that it would be wise now to systematize the work in the training school a little more, suspending a few of the least advanced students, who take the most of Miss Stahl's time, and so reducing the large number of classes, and thus make it possible for Mr.Wright to get on for a time with the assistance of Miss Stahl, who has now a pretty good command of the Spanish, and who is an enthusiastic teacher. Mr.Olds expects, I believe, to go to Cusihuiriachic in June next, for the summer vacation; and we think it would be a good time for him to make the move permanently. He is teaching in the school only two [2] hours daily; and that amount of time ought easily to be saved by reducing the number of classes under Miss Stahl. Of course it would be very desirable to continue aggressive evangelistic work amongst the population on this side of the Rio Grande, such as Mr.Olds has lately been attempting, with the aid of the students. So is it also very desirable to re-occupy the sierra region, in accordance with the minute unanimously adopted at our meeting, as follows: -"RESOLVED, that we hereby reaffirm our conviction that the sierra region, which has been worked from Cusihuiriachic as a center, should be re-occupied by a missionary as soon as possible. The considerations which led to the beginning of the work there, [viz.1., the readiness of the Mexican people at many points to receive the gospel, and 2, the presence of many thousands of the Tarahumare Indians, who ought to be evangelized, whenever suitable preachers and teachers may be raised up for this purpose,] have been reinforced by [1] our further occupancy of the west coast, between which and our stations on the central table-land the sierra work furnishes the connecting link, and [2] the increased promise of fruitfulness xxxxx xxx of the field under discussion, never so cheering as now." Mr. Bissell thinks that the present force ought to be able to carry on the school, without further assistance than is expecte from different missionaries who will give lectures from time to time, and that Mr. Olds ought to go at once to Cusi. The rest of us think he ought to go soon; and that, as soon as a first class teacher and missionary can be found to go to Mr. Wright's assistance, to develop further the school, ~~he~~ such teacher ought to be appointed, and that then the evangelistic work, and the care of the little church on this side, may well be done under the direction of the Christian faculty, by the students principally. A man might well put in about all of his time in such evangelistic work, it is true; but the question is not, what would we prefer to see done; but what is practicable, with the forces at command? A year ago the Mission voted to send Mr. Olds to Cusi., but he got orders from Boston to tarry in Juarez until a new man should be appointed for that place; and doubtless he will stay there until he gets a suggestion from the same source that he go to Cusi. The Mission unanimously appointed Mr. Howland and Miss Prescott an advisory committee to visit the school, and make suggestions, and cooperate with a similar committee that we hope may be appointed by the New West Ed. Com. Mr. Howland went to Juarez after the Conference, and doubtless will write you of his convictions. If the Testigo were to be transferred to Juarez, or El Paso, then Mr. Olds could not well leave till the new man should acquire the language; but Mr. Wright says it is impossible for him to receive the paper at present, even with Mr. Olds there, and there are other weighty reasons for keeping it where it is.

Our Conference was admirable in many respects,-the best we have had; and it was not marred by any unpleasant manifestation of difference of opinion. It was spiritual in tone, earnest in purpose, decided in its convictions as to the importance and the permanence of the work now carried on in Mexico; and we look for still larger blessing the coming year.

To meet the extra expense of going to Guadalajara next year, we shall have to leave at home all the wives, and take only one of the lady teachers with us, unless the Board will allow us a little more than the appropriation for the present year. Dr. Webb thinks we ought not to be so limited in attendance.

The news of the action taken by the Prud. Com, reported in your second letter, is very gratifying to me, and I shall be glad to avail myself of the temporary help it will aford. Work is now actively progressing on the building, some thirty men being at present employed there; five car-loads of lumber from Texas have just arrived, for roof, ceiling, floor, doors and windows, and the contractor hopes to have all ready for dedication before the 16th of September, Mexico's Independence Day. I want to take advantage of that date if possible, to give the lie to the charge that our converts are traitors to their country, working with secret agents of the U.S. government for annexation to that country. The autumn is the best time for visiting this city; and I wish some friends might arrange to be present at our dedication.

Mrs. Eaton has already written you two letters, this week, regarding Miss Felton.

Were this letter not so long already, I should like to tell you of some of the cheering reports from different parts of our field given at the Conference; but perhaps I may send something to Dr. Strong. The April "Herald", reaching us during our sessions, seemed almost like a special Mexico number.

Ever faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, April 16,1892.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,
Boston,Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 8th inst.came yesterday,reporting $450 from the W.B.M.I:,for our church building. It is from Mrs.Dr.Eli Corwin,secured by Sec. Hitchcock last Spring,as a special offering,put with $550.from the church in Ridgeland,Ill. I have recently been in correspondence with Dr.H.about the payment of this sum promised,as it is needed to meet rapidly augmenting expeneses in the construction of our edifice, work upon which was actively begun four weeks ago. Don Miguel Salas,manager of the Banco Mexicano in this city,says our foundation is the best he has seen laid here, not even excepting that of the new "Palace Hotel" which his company built two years ago. There has not been reported to us yet a dollar of the twelve hundred pledged by the Montclair church in February last, and which we hope may be increased to three thousand dollars,as the friends propose to make the edifice a memorial to Mrs.Pratt,to which you have written there can be no objection. Even with all this given,I shall still be not less than two thousand five hundred dollars short. Of this I have considerable hope of raising about one-half in additional gifts from the Mexicans and Americans in this city, by a great deal of expenditure in time and patience,-possibly extending over a year. Indeed,I shall count myself most fortunate if I get this busines wholly off my hands within a year from now,and find myself free to engage en what is usually considered to be a missionary's proper work. I have already paid some eight hundred dollars to my contractor,and in the next four weeks shall have much more than that to disburse. Indeed,within four months from now the house is expected to be delivered to me completed;and then not less than nine thousand dollars gold will have been paid,as explained in former letters to you. If besides avail-ing myself of the permission of the Prud.Com.to overdraw my account as mission treasurer, temporarily, I do not have to pay high interest on a few thousand dollars for a time, to make up for tardiness in payment of subscriptions, I shall be happy. Rev.Dr.Webb, of whose visit at our annual meeting I wrote you one week ago, urged our pushing the building ahead, saying encouragingly, "The money will come". How I wish the income of the treasury were such as to warrant the Committee's appropriting , say, one-half of what this Mission asked for, for the building [in addition to the $1,000 for the lot,] a year and a half ago!

Some thirty men are now employed upon our work, besides those engaged in steering the burros that bring sand in bags on their backs, and in persuading the mules that are hauling stone from the quarry. Three American carpenters are here, and the greater part of the five car-loads of luber from Texas, for floor, ceiling, roof, doors and window frames.

Last evening our special services for Holy Week closed with an address illustrated with sciopticon views on the last scenes in the life of our Savior; and the crush of new comers, in addition to our own people, and some Methodists, was so great, that Mrs.Eaton said she imagined how easily, with the Divine blessing, the new church might soon be filled. The contractor expects to finish the building in August, and then we shall dedicate the 15th or 16th of September, Indepence Day, giving the lie to those who charge our converts with being traitors to their country, and in laegue with agents of the U.S.gov't working for annexation.

When you asked us to make our estimates for next year on the basis of this, I suppose you did not intend to limit us to the "$21,600," which would amount to a very serious reduction upon the current year, as that did not include a considerable amount that was left out of the first calculation, owing to some confusion incident to the solidation of the two missions in Mexico, and which you have been rapidly making good, as by this item of $180. just reported in your letter, besides other sums similarly designated.

We were very sorry to hear of your illness, and hope you are now much better.

With best hopes for the future, I am, as always,

Faithfully Yours,

James D. Eaton.

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American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, April 30, 1892.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Your kind letter of the 22nd is at hand this morning, showing that you had not received any report of our annual meeting. I have just telegraphed Mr. Bissell, at Fuerte, [as the cost is only seventy-five cents silver, and will save ten to twelve days in time,] "Send Dr. Clark abstract minutes Conference. He has no report." At our meeting, as the work is growing, we divided the labors of secretary, leaving Mr. Case permanent secretary, and electing Bro. Bissell recording secretary. We passed a formal vote, on my motion, instructing Mr. Bissell to send an abstract of minutes to each station, as a reminder of action taken on a variety of subjects. So many allusions were made in the course of the sessions to the sending of a full report to you, by the secretary, that no vote was called for to cover this case. Either there has been a loss, as you fear, in the mails, or Mr. B. has been unexpectedly slow in fulfilling his duties. He had to wait a number of days, on his return, to get his steamer; so he had abundance of time for writing. I shall also write him by this mail.

You make no allusion to my full letter, [four pages], of the 9th inst, altho you penned a postscript to yours to Mrs. Eaton, under date of the 16th, saying it had just come to hand. Perhaps in the press of business you have overlooked it, for it answers several things in regard to Messrs. Wright and Olds, and concerning which you make inquiries now. Please refer to it, to save my copying.

Mr. Olds' application for the $3,000 Mexican was endorsed by the Mission. When he asked for it, showing it was a very favorable time now for purchase, as business in Cusi. is still very much depressed, because the mining company has not yet had time for rebuilding the mill destroyed by fire, I myself moved to send his request to the Committee, asking that the property be bought, on condition that the mission-

man for Juarez Tr. School, in time.

Mrs. E. has written you} Very truly Yours,
James D. Eaton

ary family occupy at once, or very soon, that station. Dr. Webb was present, and while he was careful not to compromise the Committee in any way, in this matter and in various others that came before us, we received the impression that he did not think it necessary to restrict our action by that saving clause. As I thought the matter would be settled practically that way, I waived the point. When the question came to a vote, Mr. Case had been called home by the illness of a child, and Mrs. Eaton and one of the lady teachers were absent. Howland was presiding, and Bissell and myself with perhaps one of the ladies, had we insisted upon the above-named condition, would have made just a tie, with Mr. and Mrs. Olds and Mr. Wright voting the other way. So we all voted in the affirmative, asking for the property, as "a missionary residence," or words to that effect, without attaching the condition that Mr. Olds go now, or at the end of this school year, June 1st. Bro. Howland said to me afterward, that he thought we had "stultified ourselves" by voting aye on the modified motion; but we had given to Bros. Wright and Olds as much urging as I thought advisable, already, and could not see anything to be gained by making a tie vote, and perhaps causing a little unpleasant feeling.

Miss Prescott, the other member of the committee appointed to visit the training school, -referred to in mine of the 9th, -will perhaps write you something today on this matter, of releasing Mr. Olds.

July is the month in which we make up our estimates for the following year, and as we were ordered to make these on the same basis as now, the Mission voted that each station make its estimates, on this principle, and send to the treasurer by July 1st, instructing him to combine them and forward to Boston.

As to the needs of the Guadalajara station for the current year, I cannot yet say how we stand. The only official notice I have from Mr. Ward, is of the $221.79 gold, secured by you, and reported by him Jan'y 29. Of the $180. from the ladies, for Miss Haskins' school, I know nothing further than what you have written, and await notice of vote by the Prud. Com. The rest will probably be met as Mr. Ward suggested, by our "reserve" and the very low price of silver.

I hope to hear, thru Mr. Ward, what is the name of the "friend" who sends the welcome $33.33, from Springfield, Mass., for our church building.

Miss P. has written you } Very Truly Yours,
James D. Eaton

American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, May 2, 1892.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec.

Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:-

After writing to you on Saturday, April 30, a telegram came from Mr. Bissell, saying that he had sent copy of minutes of our annual meeting to Mr. Case, the permanent secretary, on the 12th. Today I hear from him that he sent the report to you over a week ago; so doubtless you have it ere this.

The $33.33 you reported from a friend in Springfield, Mass., for our church, is for the "Church of the Christian Pilgrims" in ~~S~~ Las Cuevas, as announced by Mr. Ward, -doubtless called out by my article in the April "Herald", on the dedication there of the new building erected by the self-sacrifice of the natives.

Mr. Ward reports today the $180. voted by the Committee, as from the W.B.M.I. for Miss Haskins' school.

Always yours,

James D. Eaton

American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, June 16,1892.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,
Boston,Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Several of your letters are before me,including the last addressed to Mrs.Eaton,regarding Miss Felton,who makes the impression upon us of being rather a changeable person. We much admire the spirit of Miss Holcomb.

Regarding Estimates for the year 1893,-I copy from the Minutes of our late annual meeting:"Friday,April 1,Brethren Eaton and Howland were appointed as committee to report on Estimates for the coming year. x x x Saturday,April 2,x x x The report of committee on estimates was adopted,directing stations to prepare estimates for appropriations on the basis of those of the present year, and to send said estimates to the Treasurer not later than the close of June next".

It thus appears that the Mission took precisely the step which you speak of as desirable in such a matter. If the Committee did not attempt to get all the figures from the stations at that time,and present a detailed list of them to be voted upon,it was because of the warning from Boston,that we must keep within present limits. The list of stations showed no change; and we were not willing to ask any one to take less,in order that some other one might have more. Indeed, no such idea was broached by any person. I now realize that some action might perhaps have been taken regarding the list of "contingents" to be made out. Most of the stations alluded to needs for additional sums to carry on a growing work;but there was no spirit of rivalry manifested,and no need felt of a vote to harmonize different interests.

Yesterday we speeded on their way Mr.and Mrs.Olds,leaving for their future home in Cusihuiriachic in the best of spirits,notwithstanding Mr.Olds was still inconvenienced by a sprained ankle. He seems to be much happier since his destination is determined;-quite a change from his appearance at the time of the annual meeting. I expect to follow him next week,to help in the purchase of property;meanwhile am getting his goods off by the freighters.

Regarding our relations to the New West,-I think Mr.Wright has written to you pretty fully,covering about all of your inquiries. About three weeks ago I attended a very pleasant and profitable conference concerning the training school,meeting in El Paso Sec.Bliss and Mr.E.L.Hood, the three societies interested in one way or another,being thus represented. We voted to ask the New West to make its appropriations for the school for six months at a time,so as not to conflict with the fiscal year of the Am.Board; especially as the Board will make a concession, in settling its share of the bills for the school,after its removal to the U.S.side of the Rio Grande,in the currency of the country. This point of course does not affect the question of the amount of the appropriation; but it will probably add a little to the work of the mission treasurer, relieving somewhat our Bro.Wright,whose accounts hereafter with the two societies will be much simplified. I do not understand that we are to "give credit to the New West for the money thus invested" in the new buildings that are now going up in El Paso,in any book-keeping sense. We are of course glad that they were able to raise the $10,000 for this object; but they are the legal owners of the property,and we have no responsibility in that matter,-only as regards the expenses of the school,for teachers,support of pupils,and the incidental expenses,which I think ought in fairness to include taxes,insurance and repairs,since the purchase saves the payment of rents,before met by both societies. At the meeting of our mission,as you know,we appointed a committee to visit the school, and asked the New West to do likewise. we hope that in time endowments may be secured for it,and that a board of trustees may take charge. At present the control,from the outside,-or aside from Mr.Wright,-is very slight. We do not think he has abused his power; but the conditions ought to be modified when they can be.

Our new church edifice progresses finely, and is attracting a great deal of attention, and is likely to be ready for dedication on the 15th of sept., as I have written before. In reading the minutes of the New Jersey Association, a few days ago, I was pleased to see that it was voted to send a delegate to attend the dedication, or, failing in that, to have the secretary, Cornelius H. Patton, send us a letter of congratulation. As you surmised, the amounts sent us, through the Board, have been, with trifling exceptions, in payment of subscriptions made a considerable time ago; and scarce a beginning has been made in clearing off the balance of the obligations incurred by me in letting the contract for building. Not a syllable of response has yet come from our letter to the wealthy Mrs. Hotchkiss, and I am about writing to a friend near her, to learn whether the letter reached her. But I do not wish to add a particle to your many burdens. I am aware that the present state of the treasury will not warrant making the appropriation asked for by the Mission in Sept. 1890. I should not have said anything now, except that you kindly ask how I am now off for funds, to complete the enterprise.

Hoping that the "little vacation" you were about to take, has been of real benefit, I am

As always yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, August 4, 1892.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec.

My dear Sir:-

Your note of June 14, reporting a further payment on pledges for the church site here, and the granting of permission to Miss Holcomb to return home for the vacation next year, was duly received. I now have yours of July 25, referring to Miss Holcomb and Miss White, and asking for directions for the shipping of Miss H's goods. I have just written to Miss Holcomb, giving such information, but will copy the main part of my letter on a separate sheet, to go with this, in case the information may be needed for the sending of some goods on her account from your offices. If put upon file, it might be useful in the case of other missionaries sent to this country, -only changing the names and addresses.

You ask about the church edifice. It is nearly completed, except the tower, and is a noble edifice, that is attracting a vast deal of attention, especially standing on the commanding site it occupies. Ladies going by are heard to exclaim "What a beautiful building! But what a pity it is for the Protestants!" We are surely going to be much strengthened in our position here by this building.

But I do so wish we might see some of that money coming in. After Dr. Bradford's church shall have paid its pledges in full, raising the entire sum to two thousand or twenty-five hundred dollars possibly, we shall still be about $2500 short. We have learned that Mrs. Hotchkiss went to Alaska before she got Mrs. Eaton's letter. She is probably at home now; but whether we get anything from her millions, remains to be seen.

The health of all the members of my family has been very good right through the hot weather, and now several showers of rain have fallen, and the air is cooler; so we have much to be thankful for.

As always Yours.
James D. Eaton

cop Miss Whit.

Extracts from a letter to Miss Mary L. Holcomb, under appointment to go to Chihuahua, Mexico, giving directions as to shipment of goods etc.

"In making any further shipments of goods, please have them sent to Miss Mary L. Holcomb, in care of Rev. A. C. Wright, El Paso, Texas. Ask of the railroad company two bills of lading, [if it is willing to make them out in duplicate,] and send one to Mr. Wright, P. O. Box 452, keeping the other yourself. Let the boxes be numbered, or marked in some way to enable them to be identified, and make out an invoice of their contents, giving number and description of articles, with their value, for each box separately, though the contents of all may be written on the same list or invoice. If possible, the gross and net weight of each box should be recorded. Then, if the contents are not very miscellaneous, they will not all have to be taken out of their boxes at the custom house. They weight of every separate article will have to be known, as "duties" are paid by weight, though of course at differing rates. If you bring any pictures outside of your trunks, that is, packed with merchandize that will pay duty, please have them removed from their frames. Wooden frames pay about 20 cts. per lb. [silver], while chromos pay double that. Fixed together, the whole would pay the higher rate. Water-color paintings pay nothing. I do not know about works in oil. You are about to learn something of the beauties of a tariff; but I doubt if, on the whole, the Mexican tariff is more grievous than that in force in the U.S. x x x

If you can make out an invoice now, of those goods bought in New York, giving the number of yards [and width] of the carpets or rugs, it will save unrolling by the custom house broker, for the purpose of measuring. Send invoices to Mr. Wright."

James D. Eaton.

Chihuahua, Mexico, August 4, 1892.

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James D. Eaton.

Chihuahua, Mexico, August 4, 1892.

American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, Aug.9,1892.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Sir:-

The enclosed plain statement of facts, by Mr.Case, is made none too soon. For some time past I have been feeling that our friends at home ought to know of the suffering here, beyond the vague reports in the public press. The need is more extreme in Mr.C's field than it is in this city; partly because we never pretend to raise the corn and beans for our own consumption; and when we cannot buy of the farmers around Parral and in other districts devoted to agriculture, we buy from the U.S., as this whole State is doing, when it can get money for it. but the high prices are disheartening, and many can find no work. With the great fall in the value of silver, the chief industry of our people has received a serious check, and the number of the unemployed is likely to increase. Mr.Olds wrote from Cusihuiriachic, July 25; "No work of any consequence, and everybody suffering. Yesterday I counted ninety men going away from the mill at seven A.M., who had gone there for work, but could not get it".

What Mr.Case says regarding the suffering occasioned the missionary, by the sight of the distress which his slender income can scarcely begin to relieve, gives the merest hint of what Mrs.Eaton and myself know by daily and depressing experience.

During the past four days, very heavy rains have fallen in this vicinity, and railroad trains from north and south are delayed, so that it is probable that the southern part of the State is included; but the crops gathered from such late sowing will be scanty, at best.

I wrote you on the 4th inst.

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton.

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American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, Sept.3,1892.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,Sec.
Boston,Mass.

My dear Sir:-

As promised yesterday, by a postal card, I now reply to your very kind letter of Aug.26, at the same time acknowledging a previous note dated Aug.11, and which touched upon the same subject. It is good news indeed that there may be "a few thousands of dollars" to distribute "here and there to supplement the gifts of the year". And I trust that the month just closed may have continued the more encouraging experience of the previous one.

But to answer your questions in the order given:-

[1] Cost of Edifice and Site:-	Mex. Silver	
Lot, Registry of Deed etc.	$1,054.53	
Annexed Building,	609.75	
Architects' Plans,	216.87	
Windows, Sash $271.08, Glass $326.93,	598.01	
Hardware,	87.58	
Builder's Contract, [$8,400 gold,]	12,192.80	
Plastering outer walls, estimated,	300.00	15,059.54
[2] Amount paid in by Native People, to date,	1,068.16	
Paid by Foreigners in the city, to date,	434.84	1,503.84
[3] Received from other sources, &		7,101.99
[4] Promised from Montclair, N.J. $1,000, say at 50% prem.		1,500.00
,, ,, ,, Ill. 100,		150.00
Hoped for from U.S.Friends, [small part promised] $500, gold.		750.00
I will undertake to raise in Chihuahua, additional,		500.00
Balance still lacking,		3,553.71
		15,059.54

The last checks from Treas.Ward, have been sold at 52 per cent premium; the rate today is 53 per cent. But at the former rate, the sum of $2,338 gold is equivalent to the balance of $3,553.71 Mex.silver.

James D. Eaton

The Estimates for the next year, 1893, [delayed by losses in the mails in this country] are sent with this, kept within the figures granted for the present year, though these last did not include sums which you furnished afterwards, to make Bro. Howland good. I have put the price of exchange at 33 & a third per cent, though that is ridiculously low. Put it at 50 % and the amount in gold will be, as shown, $19,443.59, which is less than the Committe authorized by the sum of #2,220.97 gold. This almost equals the "Balance still lacking" to pay for the new church.

Two or three things may well be borne in mind: [1] The building is the property of the Board, toward which the natives have given over $1,000 of their money. [2] While it is true that at one time I received for this object $1,000, and at another $500 [as did Bro. Howland $500], through your kind suggestion that the former be used to buy the lot, and the latter for the church, in the votes the new church was not even named. The specials were for "such objects as the Mission may deem most pressing". So the Committee has not, in a formal manner, taken any money out of the treasury for the church, though in Sept. 1890, the Mission asked the Board for $1,000 for the lot and $2,500 toward the building. [3] Almost every dollar contributed in "specials" from the U.S. has come from personal frie who would not have given otherwise in this year, and some not at all to the Board. [4] The early contributions were turned in at a premium varying from twenty to thirty per cent, whereas the contractor has had to be paid at rates ranging above forty per cent, - a change so sudden that it has taken everybody by surprise. This has involved additional outlay on my part. Persons in the U.S. who saw the plans said: "That is a ten thousand dollar edifice" But I had hoped to get it for considerably less than that. Several have here suggested that it will be the Protestant "cathedral" for this region. It is a noble building.

Possibly Mrs. Hotchkiss may yet respond generously, and enable me to return a part of what the Board may be able to grant. She was in Alaska before, we now hea

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

American Board
Mexican Mission
Chihuahua, MEXICO, Oct.1.1892.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,Sec.

Chicago,Ill.

My dear Dr.Clark:-

On my return from a most successful trip to Cusihuiriachic, to assist in organizing the new church, of which more anon, I found your brief letter of the 13th inst., containing the good news of a grant of $1250 in aid of the new church edifice here, and of $1,000 for that in Guadalajara. Accept most heartfelt acknowledgment of this kindness, and for the further proposal to apply toward the same objects what may be saved by high price of "exchange".

We had planned to have the dedication on the 23rd Oct., hoping to secure the attendance of Dr.A.H.Bradford, of Montclair, immediately after the Nat'l Council; but he writes that he must preach the sermon at Hartford on the 25th inst., offering, however, to visit us during the winter, if possible. This would be most gratefully received, but it would not take the place of his presence on the day of the dedication of this noble edifice erected to the memory of Mrs.Pratt, of his church; and we could not, of course, greet him with so full a house as on the great and notable day. And it would be easier to find reasons for denying himself the pleasure of a visit in the winter, than now, when the dedication calls for him. We have postponed the occasion to the first Sunday in Nov., that he may spend the last Sunday in Oct. with his church, take the fast train for the west on Monday, reaching here on Saturday at 7 A.M., -to leave on Monday night following, if necessary, and be in his own pulpit by the next Lord's Day. A visit by him, now a corporate member of the Board, must be secured, and now is the best time. It may be worth thousands of dollars also to the treasury, inside of a very few years. Will you not take a few moments of your most valuable time to press this matter upon Dr.Bradford's attention?

Hoping & praying for an inspiring meeting in Chicago, I am
as ever yours
James D. Eaton

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Nov.24,1892.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Dr.Clark:-

Your brief communications of oct.25 and Nov.5 were duly received. The amounts they report as received for the church edifice here, are payments of former pledges, with the exception of $2.50 only. Towards the $1,250 Mexican silver which I agreed to raise,(as per my letter of sept.3 to you) if the Board would appropriate the rest needed, I can report the sum of $332 in hand paid, thus far. Yes, the depreciation in the value of silver has already seriously affected "the family expenses of the missionaries". They all buy more of less in the United States; and the prices of articles in the stores here have in many cases been raised, to meet the decline in the value of the purchasing medium. If the present quotations continue for a considerably longer time, or promise to be permanent, it will be necessary to readjust salaries, placing them on a gold basis, or raising them. For some time past the premium on U.S. funds has ranged about fifty per cent, even going above that figure. This makes the salary of a single miss'y in these northern States exactly $450 annually or $900 for a married couple, apart from the children. But these last cost more than is allowed for them. You already know something of prices here. I do not see how Miss Holcomb is to pay her way home next summer, even though she gets her board there free of charge.

Mr.Wright wishes me to state the case of the Training School with the American Board's treasury. A year ago the appropriation,(as the estimates,) for the school amounted to $3250 silver, [being $2600 U.S.cy estimated at a premium of twenty-five per cent.] This for the year 1892. When the school was moved to El Paso in the middle of the year, all payments had to be made in U.S. funds of course; and as there were extra expenses in connection with moving and getting established in a new building, Mr. Wright asked me if he might have the full appropriation of $2600 as estimated. I referred the matter to Treas. Ward, and under date of July 11 he replied:-"I note what you say as to the mode of remitting for Mr. Wright's school at El Paso. x x x You are authorized to expend the $2,600 gold appropriated, at any time during the year ending Dec. 31."

Our church dedication on the 12th inst. was a magnificent success,-surpassing our highest anticipations. Think of an audience of seven hundred people, mostly invited guests, and nearly three-fourths Roman Catholics! Think of them again as following closely the large printed program, ~~of which a copy was sent you~~, and most of them joining in the responses! The entire body rose at the "Act of Dedication", and remained standing during the chant and prayer that followed. We had policemen at the gates to keep back the eager crowd. A member of the legislature said to me: "By your dedication you have taken a very long step in advance in this city, in your work." New hearers are at all our services. Last night the lobby was filled with attentive listeners, besides those who entered. How I wish we might have help to improve this golden opportunity! Mr. Case, when he was here, said he thought I needed an associate in this city. The simple fact is, that with the treasurer's work, superintendence of colporteurs, and some visits to out-stations, I have very little time to prepare myself for preaching, all of which falls on me. My record last month shows one hundred and twelve letters written, of which two or three only may have been for friendship. That is a little above the average, it is true. Our beautiful building, especially its open lobby, closed only with iron gates, and showing the bronze memorial tablet, with English ivy twining about, invites to acts of vandalism; but no defacing has yet occurrred. The people respect such a church building, as they never did, nor would, a temporary hall or parlor. I have sent a full account to the N.Y. Independent, and will to the Herald, so do not attempt to repeat here.

A majority of the missionaries, ordained, attended the servibes of dedication;

and it was decided to anticipate the time of our annual meeting by about two and a half months, so as to help Mr. Howland dedicate his new church in Guadalajara. Otherwise he would have to do it alone, except for aid from other denominations, as the distance is so great. Thus we shall meet soon after the middle of January next. Will not the Board send a representative to meet with us, in accordance with our unanimous recommendation voted at the last meeting? We were favored in having Dr. Webb with us then; and the year before it was Sec. Hitchcock. We are sure that it is a wise policy for the Board to keep track of us by sending an official visitor each year. Perhaps such visitation of all the missions may not be practicable, though certainly very desirable; but Mexico is so near, that the difficulties to be overcome are but slight. It is a pleasant time of year to come south, and Guadalajara is generally regarded as the most beautiful city in the republic. Chihuahua and El Paso[with Juarez] are right on the line of railroad, and Parral is connected by daily stage, fare only five dollars silver. Could you not come yourself? or if that be not practicable, will not Sec. Creegan visit us? He could probably arrange his "field" work, so as to work down this way about the time mentioned. Louisiana and Florida associations also meet Feb. 3 and 7, and could be taken on his return journey, perhaps. Please let me know at once what is probably in store for us.

Another matter; the article by a miss'y to Japan, in the October Herald, gives the argument for the attendance of ladies at the annual meeting of a mission. But I believe that you yourself are heartily in favor of their attendance. Now our estimates for next year, to be kept to the figures of the present year, made no provision for travelling expenses of ladies, beyond one lady teacher. The wives were wholly left out of the account. The ladies in Sonora and Sinaloa perhaps would not think of going, although as they both have lived in G. in years past, a return to the scene of former labors might be very enjoyable. But Mrs. Case, Mrs. Olds and Mrs. Eaton, and perhaps one other lady teacher would probably arrange to leave home, if the expense could be met. Some of these northern ladies have never met any of the ladies in Guadalajara; and a full attendance there for a whole week, perhaps including two Sundays, would doubtless greatly strengthen the position of Brother Howland, who is working alone at a distance of nearly one thousand miles from his nearest Cong'l brother. With the reduced rates we can get for the ladies, the expense to the Board would be about forty-five dollars U.S.cy for each lady, on the average. With the missionaries cramped by the fall in the value of silver, they cannot be expected to meet this expense themselves; and it is really much less than the Board is saving out of their salaries this year by said depreciation; though that argument is hardly a polite one, perhaps not just, [as the Board will surely not let its workers suffer, if it knows it,] and is probably unnecessary. At our informal meeting last week Monday, before the visiting missionaries left for home, I agreed to write to Boston about this; and I believe the Prudential Com. will heartily favor the attendance of the ladies named, if the matter is brought to their notice. Please let me know the feeling as soon as convenient, in order that plans here may be made in time. The weeks are already few in number in which to arrange program, and dispose work so as to make it possible for the ladies to leave home the middle of January.

My account of the dedication is slightly delayed, so as to secure a good photograph of the new church, for an engraving in the Herald; but I suppose it would not be possible to get it into the Dec. issue at all events. Have you seen Nov. "Life and Light", with Mrs. Eaton's two articles, besides one from Mrs. Howland? It is truly a Mexico number. Mrs. E. wishes me to say to you, that if you felt encouraged by what you saw here in 1886, you would surely have rejoiced exceedingly with us on the occasion of the dedication.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Jan.4,1893.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Cl.rk,

My dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 7th Dec. was immediately forwarded to Mr.Case,as requested, and I also had a copy made for Mr.Howland,in view of the annual meeting so soon to be held with him,that suitable provision might be made for the full consideration of the important topics mentioned by you. Doubtless the training school will,as you imagine,occupy a great deal of thought and care. I agree with you that $600 U.S.cy is rather large a salary for Mrs.Stahl (not "Miss" S.) as matron,under all the circumstances; although it ought to be said that it is low for any one to serve for the pay,in the southwestern country. An ordinary servant in El Paso probably gets $30 per month. Miss Stahl's salary also is the same,as teacher,and seems large in comparison with the Board's missionaries but she is on the New West basis,and holds its commission. Their teachers all receive more than we missionaries. But most of them go home in the summer vacation, and the long distances to travel consume a good share of their savings. But I was much surprised to find that the $600 for the matron had been appropriated,at least the Board's half of it; for nothing had been said about it to this Mission, nor had it been mentioned to me as a member of the committee on Estimates. The only "Contingents" placed upon the schedule of estimates as forwarded by me,were in behalf of the training school,and one of the items was "$150 U.S. for Improvement of Domestic Service". This was understood by me to cover the securing of a matron,as it was in addition to the regular estimates for food ,full,service etc. for the students. When Mr.Crawford wrote me that his lady teacher had been secured temporarily for "$40",I supposed he meant in Mexican money,which would have been very low. But in U.S.cy it is rather higher than our commissioned teachers are receiving. Still,if Miss Wetmore paid her own traveling expenses,and receives as yet nothing for outfit, it is economical for the Board.

If Mr.Howland would be willing to leave Guadalajara, just as he has finished his new church, I think the Mission would vote unanimously to put him in charge of the training school. If Mr.Wright could fill the bill in G., then the least of change, loss and friction would be occasioned, could he and Bro. Howland exchange places. Then the troublesome question of the "Testigo" would be settled. Mr.Howland thinks it ought to be printed in El Paso, by the students; but Mr. Wright says it is impossible, at least without increasing largely the missionary force there. But Mr.H. would carry that, and the school too, with an assistant, as Mis Stahl, or better, a man in her place. Miss Stahl herself, when I was in El Paso two weeks ago, giving a half dozen lectures on Biblical Theology, said she had serious doubts as to the propriety of her staying in that school for young men, and thought she ought not to remain another year, probably. Most of the discipline of the school practically falls upon her, as she lives in the building, and has to report misdeeds to Mr.Wright who lives outside. Mrs.Eaton and I are satisfied that this is not as it should be, certainly with the Mexican's ideas of woman.

Miss Stahl is a very energetic worker, indeed she is doing too much, in the evangelistic way for her best health; and in our opinion she would be a most desirable addition to the force in Mexico, could she be secured by the Board. She was with us at our last annual meeting in this city, as in Juarez two years ago, so that all have had opportunity to know her.

As to the ladies attending the annual meetings of the Mission, they have as a rule done so, when family cares would permit, except those west of the mountains, but on account of the great distance to be traveled this year, only one could be provided for, were the appropriations kept at the old figure, as was required of us. That is why we put in our plea for help to secure the attendance of more, as a special thing this year.

Your letter of Dec.17 mentions $31.88 received from the Montclair S.S. for the school at Chihuahua under my care. But Mr.Myers, the Supt., wrote me that about such a sum had been sent to Boston,-a special Thansgiving offering,-to pay freight and duties on the communion table and pulpit chairs for our new church, any balance left to be applied toward payment of the bell, which they agreed to provide for. Probably there has been some clerical error. The only addition to the church building fund, then, was the $10 from Westfield, N.J., which is a real gain for us.

Of course what has been said above about the training school, is for your ears alone. Yet, should you wish to make any suggestion to guide our action at the annual meeting, I presume an immediate answer to this would reach me, or us, in Guadalajara, as our sessions continue from the 16th to the 22nd of this month. The dedication services occurring on the 14th and 15th.

We are having excellent meetings this week of prayer; and greatly desire spiritual blessings to crown the building enterprising. Pray for us.

Faithfully ours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Jan.3,1893.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Yours of the 29th ult. is at hand this A.M., and I hasten to give you the information in my possession regarding names etc. of the school teachers employed by this Mission, whose salaries are paid wholly or in part by the Board. In Sinaloa Mrs.Bissell has been teaching alone, but a native teacher is hoped for. In Sonara, I am not sure whether one is now teaching besides Miss Wetmore, but will inquire. For Las Cuevas it was not known at the end of the year who would be located there.

LOCATION.	NAME.	AMOUNT ASKED FOR.
Fuerte, Sinaloa,	Name unknown,	$200.00 Mexican
Hermosillo, Sonora,	,, ,,	240.00
Chihuahua, Chihuahua,	Raquel Martinez,	240.00
Las Cuevas, ,,	Unknown,	160.00
San Isidro, ,,	Maria Jesus Orozco,	180.00
Parral, ,,	Luz Caballero,	150.00
Vill Lopez ,,	Jesusita L.Montoya,	240.00
Zaragoza, ,,	Josefa Talamantes,	150.00
Guadalajara, Jalisco,	Josefa de la Mora,	180.00
Tlajomulco, ,,	Miss Magdaleno,	60.00
Ten teachers, all women ,	Total,	1790.00

Before the calendar year has expired probably several changes will take place in this land of changes.

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Jan.10,1893

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Since answering your inquiries concerning the school teachers, I have ,this morning, your favor of Dec.31 in regard to Prudden Hall. You may remember that two years ago you obtained from the Woman's Board the sum of $2,000 U.S.for the enlargement of our Girls' School accommodations in this city, $1,600 of this being from a legacy left by a Mr.Prudden of New Haven, Conn. His widow and his sister live together there,on Orange st., active in all good works,as in the "Oak st. Mission," in Christian Endeavor etc. At the time of the meeting of the Board in Pittsfield,Mrs.Eaton and myself,with child and servant,spent about a week most delightfully in that consecrated home,at the special request of the ladies; and we are still,as we were before that date, in correspondence with them.

Most of the money you secured was spent on the Cerrada street front of these premises,enlarging rooms for day school on the ground floor and building dormitories above for the boarding pupils. We had thought several times of calling the reformed building "Prudden Hall", and are now sure that it is best to do so, and perhaps we can put the name up somewhere ,outside or inside of the building, so that the people here may become familiar with it.

Your report of $2.72 from the Montclair Sunday School explains the former discrepancy. The Supt, Mr.Myers, had reported to me $34.68, and you and Treas. Ward advised me of only $31.88 voted by the Committee. As explained in my last, this was to pay freight and duty on the communion table and chairs,the rest to be applied to payment of the bell,-all given by the Montclair,S.S. It was not "for school at Chihuahua",-some one's error.

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton

Chihuahua, Jan. 6, 1893

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Feb.1,1893.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Sir:-

As chairman of the committee on Estimates, and in accordance with instructions received from the Mission at its late annual meeting, I now enclose the schedule of Revised Estimates for the year 1893., amounting to $21,523.92 in gold, besides the salaries of the new lady missionaries who were appointed to this field months after orders were received from the Committee to limit ourselves to the lump sum of "$21,600." The vote for adding twenty per cent to the salaries of the missionaries, who have their allowance in Mexican money, was unanimous. The condition affixed seems to secure the Board sufficiently. And you will observe that nothing is said of having made up to us the losses incurred through the fall in silver up to date, or Jan.1st. We do not ask for "Back Pay"! Several would have preferred to ask the Board to pay the salaries in gold, as is done by all the important Boards in this country, if not by all absolutely. [Thus the Presbyterians, Northern and Southern Methodists, and Baptists do so. I have not had opportunity to inquire as to the practice of other societies.] But it was felt that the Board would prefer the action taken, for the present at least.

With this goes a letter to Mr.Ward, containing my semi-annual statement of account as Mission Treasurer. Allow me to refer you to it for information. From my resumé, it appears that, aside from Special Grants and the expenses incurred by the appointment of new missionaries, the cost to the Board of sustaining this Mission during the whole of the year 1892 has been about $2,600.83 gold less than the Apropriations. It is for the Committee to decide whether this, or any portion of it, shall be applied to the payment of the deficits on the two new church buildings. Your favors of Jan.3, 17 and 20 have been received. I am very glad to

James D. Eaton

hear of that $25 from Mrs. Hiram Smith. I had not heard anything of the $50 before, from Mr. Mead of Oberlin, and presume that it is as you say, for a preacher. Mr. Ward will doubtless inform me in due time. I have told him that the $45 from the Woman's Board of the Interior, to take Miss Prescott to the annual meeting, will not be needed, as Miss P. could not go.

As you will receive so full an account of the annual meeting from our corresponding secretary, Mr. Case, it hardly seems worth while for me to write of the same occasion with less of particularity.

Most sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

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CHIHUAHUA, Mar.9,1893.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Sir:-

On the 1st of Feb. I wrote you enclosing the revised Estimates for 1893, as adopted by the Mission at its recent annual meeting, and referring to the treasurer's Statement of Account which was sent to Mr.Ward, and which shows that in the line of regular ~~appropriations~~ expenditures for last year, there has been a saving of over two thousand dollars, as compared with the Appropriations. In that connection, it was suggested that perhaps the Board might feel it could devote a part of this balance to the payment of obligations on the new church or churches.

On the same day Mrs.Eaton wrote you quite fully regarding the need of a residence for the missionary family here, separate from the Girls' School. Afterwards, on the 22nd, having received from you a note of inquiry concerning this matter [called out by the report you had received from the committee, Messrs.Bissell, Crawford & Olds,] Mrs.E. wrote again briefly, referring to hers of the 1st ult.

To none of these have we as yet had any response. I trust it does not indicate a delicate state of health for you.

While writing, I will refer to another matter. We are in great need of some more cabinet organs. In the summer of 1886, over six and a half years ago, we received the gift of an organ for the School, which has done good service; but it is becoming pretty well worn now, and there are so many pupils that it is a physical impossibility for all to practice on it, with the limits of the day and part of the evening. We ought to have another one without delay] and we wish the Board might see its way clear to voting us the $50 or $60 [according to size] necessary to pay freight and duty.* In El Valle de San Buenaventura, 180 miles northwest of this city, deacon Teófilo Romero is building a chapel at his own charges, and

×(though, if it cannot do more than secure the gift of the organ, will try to raise money for expenses)

James D. Eaton

paying most of the cost of supporting a daughter in our School in this city. A niece of his, who has a widowed mother, and who is a very bright girl, and of great assistance in the meetings for both sexes, when she is at home [we have not been able to provide them with a preacher], is studying here, and preparing herself to play the organ, whenever one shall have been secured. They are now gathering funds for this purpose, but can scarcely do more than pay the freight and duty, which amount to about the first cost in the U.S. People in the U.S. can hardly appreciate the value of such an instrument for drawing in this music-loving people.

Last year I was not able to visit the little church once, on account of the church building in this city. The year before, I was building our School edifice the early part of the year, and went to the U.S. with my family in August; so that in these two years I have not seen the brethren, though their town is considered an out-station of mine. The year before I visited them twice. And I am now planning to go there in May next. It would give me great satisfaction, and bring to them much good cheer, if I might then tell them that an organ is on the way.

We have other needs; but I will not be greedy! We have no organ for our lecture room in this city, and so have to hold our mid-week meetings without the aid of an instrument. The traveling organ we had in Atotonilco, has been removed to Jimenez, leaving the former place seriously bereft.

But the two needs mentioned above are the most pressing; and I hope that Mr. Smith's heart, or some other man's, may be great enough to supply them, and so comfort us greatly.

With this goes a city paper containing view of the new church, with a long descriptive article. A local item says: "We take pleasure in presenting to our readers today the first page of our paper illustrated with a magnificent engraving, which represents the Temple of the Holy Trinity of this capital; and it will not be the last, for from the beginning we have purposed illustrating our periodical with beautiful and choice views of the principal monuments and buildings of the city and State."

Faithfully Yours,

James D. Eaton.

Montclair, N.J. June 13, 1893.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark;

My dear Sir:-

Circumstances made it seem wise to spend a part of my time for rest in this place, - without additional expense to the Board; and the opinion of physicians, approving the step, has been justified by the result. For the additional change of scene and diet, with the further advantage of a journey (which is always of benefit to me) has accelerated the process of recovery, so that I am beginning to feel very much in the spirit of resuming my work. From several of the missionary brethren have I received kindly cautions against returning to my work before health shall have been wholly restored. But it looks now as if the plan of returning to Chihuahua at the end of July might be carried out.

Your favor of April 21 & 27, in relat to a new teacher for the training School was "missent", and has only just reached me here. As the Mission i just now voting on the motion to sen Mr. Howland, in Sept. to El Paso, "to be associated with Mr. Wright", on the re commendation of a committee whi was composed of these two brethre and Mr. Case, I should rather be ex cused from entering into the mer of the question while hampered by this slow medium of communic tion. Suffice it to say, that Mrs Eaton and myself have felt con strained to vote in the negative.

I do not purpose speaking all in public, (unless it be to thank the church here for generous help building our house of worship), nor have I thought of entering N England. Yet if you should des to speak with me in person, I wo gladly meet you anywhere, and any time you might see fit to name before Sunday, July 2; as we are likely to return to Beloit and Roscoe immediately after the 4th

Another matter to be decided soon is that of a separate residence for us. We feel that we cannot begin another year of the boarding school (which opens August 1st.) without securing at least a partition of the present premises. The building of a high wall nd the construction of a stairway to ccommodate one of the lady teachers, hile providing for us, at comparatively slight expense, a satisfactory esidence, would inconvenience and riously cramp the school. Nor can e think it wise to expend such a um as Mr. Bissell's committee recommended last February, in making hanges and additions that would meet the need for but a few years. ou see the dilemma in which we e placed. But I will not enlarge.

We are thankful for good word

from home, -encouraging attendance
meetings, with new faces in the new
church, and great interest in the clos
exercises of the school. Mr. & Mrs. Olds
have done good work, and we believ
have received stimulus themselves.
Mr. O. remarked in one of his letters, "In
the building of your new church
Chihuahua seems to have completely out-grown ~~got beyon~~
the day of small things."

Mrs. Eaton joins with me in
sending affectionate greetings.

Sincerely Yours,
James D. Eaton.

Rev. James D. Eaton
Montclair, June 13, 1893
Rec'd June 14

Montclair, N. J. June 23. 1893.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark.

My dear Sir:-

Your letter of inquiries regarding the disposition of our forces came to hand by the last mail; and I will endeavor to indicate briefly our views.

We should vote heartily to ask Messrs. Wright and Howland to exchange places. But to locate both in El Paso would materially weaken our working force in the field. A well-quipped school will be worth little, unless we have a strong constituency of churches from which to draw students. Had we a competent band of native pastors, the case would be different; but there is not one,- only a single ordained preacher, and he in the state of Jalisco, over 1200 miles distant. Mr

Wright's evangelistic efforts would have be confined to the strip of population along the Rio Grande, near El Paso, except in the summer vacation.

Then we object to the form of the motion that Bro. Howland "be associated with Mr. Wright." That mean probably, that Mr. W. will retain h residence adjoining the school, an Mr. Howland must seek a home i Juarez. The relative positions sh be reversed. *All* of us agree in that. Mr. Case thinks it would b only a question of time when M H. would assume the direction the School. But that would simply "prolong the agony";- hardl fair to Mr. W.,- and would involve extra trouble in moving, for the two families.

If Mr. W. went to Guadalajara, th paper could remain in that important city and center of Roma-ism, the work being done by the same printer as now.- Pablo.

r. H. could carry the school, with
mporary assistant furnished by
e New West. for a year or two at
ast.

Perhaps Mr. & Mrs. Olds would do
bout as well in G. as Mr. & Mrs. Wright.
r. O. especially has shown fine adap-
ability to the work. But it would
e too bad to abandon the Sierra
work, which I could not care for.
Before we heard of this voting, Mrs.
ton and I had proposed that Mr. & Mrs. O.
main in Chihuahua until the next
nnual meeting, in June 1894, to
ive me some help, - he and I both
making trips, at different times,
o the mountains. Mr. O. writes
e that, in addition to the So. Meth-
dists, a Campbellite preacher, ac-
ompanied by his mother, has just
ame to Chihuahua "to open a school
nd, as soon as possible, establish
a mission." We surely need
to hold that point strongly.

In the present condition of

business in Cusihuiriachic, pro bly the mission premises could not be sold at all.

Regarding a residence for o selves; an expenditure of $200 or $300 might build the necessary high w (to keep the curious eyes of the girls in the second story of "Prudden H from viewing our family life, and an extra stair-case (to enable Miss Dunning to make an excha of rooms.) But then we should have accommodations for five or six girls less than we now hav in the house. To house the present number, and allow for slight increase, the committee re commended an expenditure of $150 or $1600. (gold) You have their ow figures, sent in Feb'y.

I do not see how I can do without the present room near th street, used for treasurer's office book-store and study.

With the slight alteration pro

osed above, we should feel ourselves
ell provided for as a family; but the
school would be cramped. It might
e added, that our buggy would have
o be kept, where it is now, on the
chool side of the wall, and so taken
ut through the street door of the
chool;- unless rent were to be paid
or a place for horse and buggy some-
here else. As I am my own
table-boy, that would mean extra
work for me. I could not get
place for the buggy alone else-
where, because people would "stare"
o much at the missionary leading
is horse through the streets.
Still, I do not think our being in-
nvenienced slightly by having our bug-
in the school yard ought to be con-
idered.

There is no time to be lost in
rriving at some decision, if we
re to return in season to our
work: although exact estimates can
e made only on the ground, and

I do not ask that the work of alt
ation be directed by others. Bu
we do ask that some kind of cha
be undertaken immediately up
our arrival in Chihuahua. Th
six months, during which Mrs. Ea
offered to live in the mission
premises, to start the Boarding Sch
when Miss Keyes was there, has length
ed out to a period of four years
six months.

If a separate residence cann
yet be secured, Mrs. Eaton feels sure
that we ought to remain in the
U.S., and I sympathize with her.

We shall cheerfully accept the res
of the voting: but if both Howland & Wright g
to El Paso, I may ask that they relieve m
of the treasurer's work, at the end of thi
year.

Faithfully Yours,
James D. Eaton

Rec'd June 24

Money for repair $200

Montclair, N.J. June 29/93

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark.

My dear Sir:-

Yours of the 24th. inst. ame by last mail.

Mr. Wright ought to have some elp in the Tr. School, now that Miss Stahl has left; and if the right man annot at once be found, - to be commissioned by the New West, - perhaps Mr. Olds, (who has the language, and who wanted to stay in the School before,) might go to El Paso for year, until the next Mission meeting in une 1894. The Wrights have a spare room, that was originally designed for Miss Stahl, & that is furnished. And in Juarez the wo related families, Wright and Olds, ived in one house, & Mrs. W. and Mrs. O. took turns in being responsile for the meals. This would of course leave the Sierra region n cared for; but that would occu equally if the Oldses went to Guad lajara. And this would not disturb the Howlands for a year would give Mr. Wright all the h he could ask for, and would involve a mere trifle of expense as for the trip to El Paso. No fur niture, I suppose, would need be moved.

It seems probable that we sh not get away from Montclair be fore July 20 to 25. Mrs. E. feels she must care for her sister's family (Torrey) a little time, to secure medic treatment for her; and it will be safer f me not to get back to work much before the end of August.-

It will not be easy for me to name with accuracy the sum required for the few changes in the mission premises, befor consulting in person with the lady teache

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton

14 Walnut Crescent,
Montclair, N.J. July 8. 1893.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Your favors of the 1st & 7th inst. are before me, with reference to the proposed conference in Boston. The latter came through so promptly, that I am inclined to send this to Boston, although you kindly suggest my addressing you at Clifton Springs, for which you plan to start "Tuesday a.m."

By the telegram from Mrs. Eaton, in my absence yesterday (Friday), you learned that your dispatch of the day before was not received until that day noon; though the operator's office is only 25 or 30 paces from the post office which delivers my letters twice each day at my temporary place of residence!

I do not know that anything can be added to my letter of June 29, which suggested that th exact sum needed for a provisional division of the mission premises, be named after our return to Mexic and upon consultation with the lady teachers.

It was perhaps the same letter which proposed that it might be better to send Olds to El Paso, (rather than to take th place of Bro. Howland in Guadalajara to help Mr. Wright for the school year, 1^{93} to May 31.^{94} Then, when the Mission m (soon after June 1,) the matter could discussed carefully, and our recommendations made to the Board, for sequent disposition of forces.

Mrs. Eaton has offered to give her sis Mrs. Torrey, some help until July 31, if necessary; so that I am likely to detained here for three weeks mor

I am sorry I cannot talk wi you of other matters also, as Miss Fe ton's rejection, salaries as related to th silver agitation, &c. Faithfully You

James D. Eat

Jas. D. Eaton 66

Montclair, N.J.
July 28, 1893.

The Revd
N. G. Clark, D.D.

My dear Sir:-

As Dr. Webb is chairman of the sub-committee on Mexico, I have just written him further on the subject of the training school, and shall endeavor to have a conference with Bro. Case, concerning the matter, as soon after my return as possible — correspondence by mail at least.

I had a delightful
visit with Harlan P
Beach in Springfiel
called on friends i
New Haven, and foun
all well at home
last night.

We still plan to
start West on Mon-
day P.M. the 31st, and
reach our Mexican
home August 17th.

Praying that you
may have strength
for the care of so ma
ny Churches and mis
sionaries, and abun
ant wisdom and
grace for all need, I a

Most cordially Yours
James D. Eaton

14 Walnut Crescent,
Montclair, N.J. July 17/93

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Your kind letter of the 0th inst. came duly to hand.

We now plan to start on the return ourney to Mexico on Thursday, June 27th. r, at the latest, Monday the 31st.; and if you favor it, I shall be glad to spend uesday the 25th in Boston, to consult ith yourself and Mr. Ward, and answer any questions the Committee may have to ask. As has been lready referred to in our correspondnce, there are several topics, (the raining school, arrangement of ission premises in Chihuahua, ppropriations as affected by the Fall in silver &c.), upon which onsiderable light might be hrown by even a brief personal nterview. If you can conveniently inform me of your wishes in this matter as early next Saturday, it will be an accommodation.

Hoping that you are securing rest and refreshment in these days, I am as always,

Faithfully Yours,
James D. Eaton

Montclair, July 17. 93
Rec'd July —

Roscoe, Ill. Aug. 12. 1893.

My dear Dr. Clark:-

Your letter regarding the return of Mr. Case's old trouble reached me at the same time, almost, with one from the afflicted brother himself. This is indeed a sore disappointment, and most unexpected, since Mr. C's health has seemed, of late, to be better than for years before.

I now learn that Mr. Olds was to go to Parral this week, and that Mr. Case is now, probably, in Chicago. I have written to Sec'y Hitchcock to learn where he is, that I may see him on Monday next, before taking the train for El Paso.

Every one speaks of my maniifest improvement in health.

With many thanks to you and to the other friends in Boston, for taking such good care of me, and promising to be more careful of myself, I remain

Faithfully Yours.
James D. Eaton.

Aug. 12, 73
Rec'd Aug. 14.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, August 25,1893.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Sir:-

We reached home safely on the morning of the 18th inst.,according to the plan entertained when I was in Boston,and received a most cordial welcome from the native brethren. Mr. and Mrs. Olds had gone the week before to supply Mr.Case's place in Parral. I went to Chicago eight hours in advance of my family,hoping to be with Bro.Case at the time of the surgical operation;but it had been postponed till the next day. A letter from Mrs. C. says that it was deferred still another two days,and she had not heard of the result,when she wrote day before yesterday. I offered to remain with Mr.Case,but he had a sister-in-law with him and expected his cousin Miss Prescott,in two or three days.

Your favors of the 2d,11th & 16th are before me. It is,indeed,a perplexing condition that confronts us;but,as you suggest,a few months of waiting may throw needed light. I think now the estimates which were made out for next year,but withheld on account of doubts as to location of forces,might as well be sent; but I will consult with brethren of the committee first.

Some changes in these premises were made before our return,in accordance with our suggestions sent by mail,which have already brought us great relief, and they have perhaps not crowded unduly the girls' school,especially as a few of the pupils have not yet returned. When I can give you definite figures,I will write more of this.

The new church edifice looks to us more attractive than ever;and the ivy in the vestibule,wreathing the memorial tablet,is full of life,having grown more than three feet since we went away. May it typify the spiritual life of the people who worship within the comely walls!

Hoping in the Lord who never fails us,and with best wishes for you and yours, I remain

Faithfully Yours,
James D. Eaton.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Sept.15,1893.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark, Sec.
Boston,Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Your favors of the 1st and 8th inst. are at hand, and I send herewith the Estimates for next year, which are limited to the $20.800 proposed by the Prud.Com. I forbear to increase your burdens by adding another lament in view of the reduction to which we have been subjected. It is the first time we have had a serious set-back as a Mission, from this cause. I had supposed, until after my return here, that the Estimates had been forwarded some time in June. But you know the reason they were not,-the uncertainty regarding the distribution of our forces, prolonged recently by the unexpected disability of Brother Case. It has seemed best to let his salary stand, in view of several uncertainties, and remembering that a new lady missionary has been appointed to Hermosillo since the estimates were made out, though strictly speaking her salary would not come out of the sum named last winter to us, I suppose.

The Education Society is expected to contribute another sum of $3,228.00 to meet the amount named in the estimates. This provides for a second male instructor, and house rent for his family.

A Mr.M.L.Hoblitt, a most estimable young man of the "Christian" church, who has been trying to support himself and his mother as missionaries in this city, by teaching school, and who knows the Spanish, will probably be secured to help Mr. Wright until next June. Mr.Olds may well remain in Parral till the same date, that of our annual meeting. I will take charge then of the helper and colporteur on the Cusi. field, though my work is already pretty heavy, and this with the extra labor of arranging mission accounts for the back months, has caused me to lose seven of the eighteen pounds gained in my vacation. But I hope for better things now. I could not advise at present the removal of Mr.Bissell, who is having the greater success on the west coast, nor Mr.Crawford, for whom both church edifice and school building have been erected. If the Board is to be permanently crippled, and the Mexico Mission must be reduced, then - - -

Faithfully yours,
James D. Eaton.

Chihuahua, Aug. 25, '93
Rec'd Aug. 31,

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Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Oct.14,1893.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,Sec.

My dear Sir:-

Soon after writing you on the 15th Sept.,I received your favor of the 13th,in regard to the provisional settling of Mr. and Mrs. Olds in Parral. Their goods have just passed through here,having been shipped yesterday. I could have wished them to be satisfied with a little less. Still, the matter was not an easy one to decide,with due regard to the interests of all. It was not best to say anything to the Cases about turning over some of their effects,without compensation,to the others; for they bought comparatively little outfit with the Board's money,in the form of furniture. Perhaps a second-hand bedroom suit bought in El Paso,is about all that is left of the original outfit. Mr.Case made tables and chairs with his tools. I sometimes thought in those first years that he spent time in this way that might have been better employed in Gospel work,-more than was needed for exercise alone. Circumstances have seemed to make it unavoidable that Mr.Olds should be changed about a good deal since he joined the Mission, and I felt it to be advisable to consider their wishes in the matter of temporary furnishing of their home in Parral as far as possible. Mrs.Case expects to pass through here next Tuesday night,hoping to be joined by her husband in El Paso; but if he be not able to travel yet,she will go on alone with her children to So.California. We are very sorry not to have more favorable news from Mr.Case's second operation in the hospital.

In regard to changes made necessary in these premises by the separation of the boarding school from our own quarters,-I had hoped to send you the exact figures over a month ago;but there was such an accumulation of matters demanding my attention,that it was simply impossible to report earlier. In accordance with our suggestions by mail, before our return something was done to wall off the girls at the very opening of the new school year, so that they might feel less their exclusion from accustomed haunts! It is further necessary to construct a good-sized room, to take the place of one on our side of the property which was before occupied by several of the boarders. Further, we have made application to the city council to grant us the privilege of laying a small pipe from the one which passes a near corner, to introduce water into the school, since it is cut off from the only well, in our patio. The contract price for a new well would be $250 Mexican, and even with the well it is necessary to buy drinking water. But to lay the pipe will cost only about $95., depending upon the exact location of the faucet in the school patio. True, if the city grants our petition, which is not certain, as their present supply in pipes is limited, so that they have to ask a high price for water, [most of the people buy from carts which bring water to the doors, from the acqueduct], the school will have to pay $5 Mex. monthly. making a large hole in their appropriation. But at present a limited supply costs them $7. So there would be at once a saving of $2. monthly; and more water. What we ask of the Board, then, is as follows:-

Paid for slight changes already made,	$56.82	Mex.
New room contracted for,	180.00	"
Laying pipes to introduce water (probable,)	95.00	"
Total,	331.82	"

At today's rate of exchange, [sixty-seven per cent premium], this would amount to $198.57 gold. Even making it a round $200., I shall have little extras to meet out of our appropriation for incidentals, it is probable. I think this is about the lowest sum that was mentioned between us last summer. $300 was also spoken of. I think I said that the expenses would probably not exceed the latter figure. But in these hard times for the treasury, I wish to keep expenses down as much as possible. By the present arrangement, the ladies, teachers, enter by our street door and have free access to our patio, for their callers as well. We could not consent to deprive them of this, though it limits our own freedom. This plan also keeps horse and buggy on the premises, avoiding paying rent elsewhere; and the changes are almost wholly of permanent value to the school, for the time when the whole premises may be left to it.

Thank you for your "Plea" in the "Cong'st". We are intensely eager to hear from the meeting at Worcester.

Faithfully Yours,
James D. Eaton

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

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CHIHUAHUA, Nov.13,1893.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark, Sec.

My dear Sir:-

There is barely time to reply to inquiries in your esteemed favor of the 7th inst., and I must wait till next week to report results of my recent long tour, and perhaps some other matters.

Miss Haskins went to the U.S. after I fled to the north for my health, and I knew nothing of the circumstances; but as she did not make application to the Mission, as far as I am aware, I had supposed she received permission from Boston without our intervention. Miss White is reported as making creditable progress in the language, and is aided in the school by Mrs.Howland. I will ask Mr.Howland to inform you regarding these two matters. Miss Prescott remains in Parral. As to Mr.Case, I have been writing to Mr.Ward in regard to his accounts, and will bear in mind your caution concerning his needs.

Mr.Crawford writes that the So.Methodists have offered us Alamos in southern Sonora, where perhaps Mr.Bissell would have located, if a native preacher (M. E. church) had not been stationed there. His correspondent, Corbin, said there were several church members, and some believers, and he wished to sell us $50 to $75 worth of church benches etc. He requested an immediate reply, but Crawford asked for time to communicate with me. I have answered, that there need be no haste; that the offer would probably not have been made us, if the Methodist brethren could have conveniently worked the field themselves; and that we must seek the opinion of Mr. Bissell, within whose jurisdiction the place would fall; and that he would have to visit the point in question, [one night's ride by diligince from Fuerte], before any thing could be done. I also reminded Bro.Crawford, that the Mission has no superintendent to decide such matters, although Rev.A.B.Simpson, of the Christian Alliance, writes: "More and more we have learned, as we have looked out upon the mission work of many fields, that a good superintendent is worth a score of workers, and is indispensable in any aggressive work." But I am not a candidate!

I am thankful to the Committee for granting the $200 for repairs and changes on the mission premises in this city; but I regret the phrasing of the vote, "For repairs on the house of Rev. J. D. Eaton", and would respectfully request you, if it will not take too much of the precious time of the Com., to explain that the entire expenditure is limited to the part of the property devoted to the Girls' Boarding School, and that the expense might very properly be assumed by the Woman's Board. The three main items, which include almost every dollar voted, are a stairway, to enable Miss Dunning to reach her room without using our family stairs, and at the same time to place her nearer to her girls [she taking one of our rooms and giving us hers], a large room to accommodate the girls who had been crowded into our servant's room, and the bringing in of water through pipes, to take the place of the well which is in our "patio". With the exception of the exchange noted above, we are occupying precisely the same rooms as before, using the same stairs, the same well, the same street door, the same "patio". The lady teachers still have access to the same "patio" and street door, for we would not consent to deprive them of this advantage; but we gain, in not having the girls running over us, destroying almost all privacy of family life. They still can see a good deal of us from their dormitory in the second story; but it hardly seemed best yet to build up a high division wall.

I should be sorry to have the Committee get the idea that they are expending money directly on my residence; for this might be an obstacle to the securing of necessary help sometime in the future.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

"THE CHURCH THAT IS IN THEIR HOUSE".

Chihuahua, Nov. 18. '93
Rec'd Nov. 23.

Four years ago it was organized in the huge reception room, over forty feet in length, of our most excellent Theophilus Romero, who lives in San Buenaventura, one hundred and sixty miles north-west from this city. Its twenty-nine members are drawn mostly from two large families, closely related and living near together.

Three of the young women have been in our boarding-school; and one of them, who is a moving spirit in the church, arranged an elaborate program for celebrating the anniversary, in connection with the long deferred visit of the missionary. The parlor was adorned with fkowers, portraits of the nation's heroes, and the national colors; and as different speakers mounted the improvised rostrum at one end, to address us, both in proze and poetry, giving utterance to patriotic sentiments, it was difficult to realize sometimes that they were not celebrating their Independence Day.

Most admirably expressed were the ideas regarding the proper relations of Church and State: and there was no hiding of their opinions concerning the erroneous teachings and the unpatriotic attitude of the Roman church, out of which they had come. It was a complete refutation of the charge that Mexicans who accept the gospel we preach, become traitors to their country, and evidently impressed the outsiders who attended.

The two following nights were presented views illustrating the life of Christ, by means of the sciopticon, to more than a hundred people, some of them coming a distance of five miles, and many of them having nover before attended a Protestant meeting. Some of these on the last Sunday night, when new members were baptized and the Lord's Supper administered, sat with their eyes "nailed" upon the speaker, as was remarked by the brethren.

In all its history this church has been visited by missionaries but five or six times, and has enjoyed the ministrations of students from our training school, in two of the summer vacations. Señor Romero is building a chapel in the rear of the Roman church, upon which he has already spent about three hundred dollars.

On that last day there arrived, with much pomp and ceremony, the new bisho in whose honor triumphal arches were erected, flowers strewn and bells rung, the village president himself with the postmaster marching at the head of the procession. But when he reached Chihuahua the month before, as the first to occupy this newly created diocese, no such public demonstrations were allowed, as being contrary to law; and it is understood that, in response to the protest sent by our bretren, the governor has ordered an investigation, and will fine those found guilty of violating the federal constitution.

James D. Eaton

Chihuahua, Mexico,
Nov. 30, 1893.

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Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Dec.1,1893.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Your kind letter of the 23rd ult. has reached me before I found time to redeem my promise to send you some account of my late tour into the western ,or rather, northwestern, part of the State, to a point within fifty or a hundred miles of where the U.S. papers say the "rebellion" has been in progress. But I heard nothing of it. True, a border custom house at Palomas was asaulted and robbed by some fifty men, and possibly two hundred have been gotten together in the hope of plunder; but as the government has massed something like a thousand men in that region, it is not likely that any serious trouble will arise. I cannot learn that any political significance is attached to these events One night last week a military band was stationed in the main plaza to play on an unaccustomed evening, so as to draw out the people, and it is said that a large number of the poorer class were impressed into service, as has been done several times since we came here. As an American said to me this morning, the principal drawback connected with the marauding is, that whereas the new governor had hoped soon to reduce taxes, he will now have to keep them at the same figure, in order to meet the expenses incurred in maintaining order. This gentleman said that he had recently received a letter from the manager of the mines in Corralitos, (which was reported by the "El Paso Times" to have been taken by the insurgents) but his friend made no allusion to any troubles. The "Times" wants to sell papers, by means of sensational reports, and is injuring this country. There has been some talk of prohibiting its sale within Mexican territory.

People are more ready to credit exaggerated reports now, because of the real troubles last spring and summer. On my recent tour of nearly four hundred miles with horse and buggy, during which I slept sometimes wrapped only in my blankets with the stars for silent watchers, I passed over a stretch of road which has been dangerous, and the helper, Señor Madrid, whom I had been visiting in Namiquipa, did not wish me to travel it alone, and so went with me for sixty miles. On the way we spent one night at the house of the village president in Cruces, who is a believer, though not baptized. In that place half of the houses were empty, because many of their owners took part in the insurrection, and some are still in hiding. Seweral were shot by the officers of gov't, and their bodies hung up beside the road for weeks, as a terror to evil-doers. Madrid saw them a little time before, when he passed along with his daughter and one of our teachers, and I expected to see them, but did not. Perhaps they had been taken down.

Of my visit to San Buenaventura, I sent yesterday a brief account to Dr. Strong, for the "Herald". My visit was most fortunately timed, as it coincided with the coming of the new bishop, enabling me to witness the violation of the reform laws, and to help the brethren to draw up a protest to the governor. Today I expect to send a report of this to the "Independent". May I ask you to glance at my letter to Dr. Strong, to see what I said about the bishop of Chihuahua?

Since my last, we have celebrated the first anniversary of the dedication of our new church edifice, with a very attractive program; and some special and, for them, generous offerings were made by some of the brethren towards the payment of the debt. The sexton read an interesting report of the visits made to the building, mentioning some forty different cities and towns in this State from which reprensatives of from one to eight families each had entered the building to see it, and many of them to talk with him about our faith, and to carry away tracts, -besides those hailing from other states and from the United States. Thus the building itself is doing a valuable evangelistic work daily, as it stands open every afternoon.

As you have asked for it, I will give you my thought in regard to suggested changes in location and personnel of our working force. Mr. Olds has gained a good command of the Spanish, and has shown activity in the work, with a commendable readiness to adapt himself to circumstances which called for frequent changes of residence on his part. But after gaining a fuller acquaintacce with his methods, through his stay of nearly three months in this city last summer, and more recently through the coming under my direction of a part of his late field, —

I cannot feel that he has yet acquired the experience to fit him for taking sole charge of the important station of Guadalajara and of our work in that State, one thousand miles from this city. You will ask for particulars. He is rather too abrupt in manner for the most successful management of the Mexicans: has undertaken some operations without sufficiently considering the probable consequences involved; and, perhaps owing to his varied experience since coming to Mexico, is a little inclined to cover a large territory. His wife is as impulsive as a little girl, [that is one of her charms!], and that may affect his judgment. He is not the only missionary whose inaccuracy in keeping accounts has occasioned me extra work, but a defect in that direction would be more serious in Guadalajara. Perhaps the most prominent of the candidates for baptism in Guerrero, reported in the Dec. "Herald", is Juan Armijo, a merchant, who was educated in New Mexico and is a very attractive man. But at El Refugio saw-mill I met his most estimable wife, sister-in-law of the proprietor, Ursino Almeida, just recovering froma severe illness, perhaps brain fever, caused by her knowledge of her husband's infidelity with servants in the house. Mr. Olds' own helper told me of this, and talked of it with Deacon Romero in San Buenaventura. Why could not Mr. Olds learn of it? Last week he wrote me of his visit to Saragoza, and remarked that the teacher, Josefa Talamantes, "says she is sick and is going home to doctor herself." Mrs. Eaton and I have just called upon her at her home here, and found that Mr. Olds had told her that if she did not feel able to return, they could get another teacher from Parral, leading the sensitive Jossfa to feil that her services were no longer desired, whereas it would be almost, if not quite, impossible to fill her place from Parral. They have have applied to us here for teachers. She also says that because Mr. Case had

James D. Eaton

asked the people to contribute what they could, some of the parents who are not ch. members thought they were obliged to pay, and, not having the wherewith to do so, took their children out. Mr. and Mrs. Olds arrived on saturday, driving fifty miles from Parral, and left early on monday morning, so there was no time to see the families and explain matters. He promised to return.

I should favor leaving Mr. Howland where he is, especially as he and Mr. Wright are unwilling to change places. The number of students in El Paso is a little smaller than last year; and if Mr. Hoblit can remain, that would furnish the help needed in the school. It still semms to me, as to others of our mission, that one missionary, with suitable assistants and the aid obtained through occasional lectures by other missionaries, might carry the school for the present. As regards the church work there, Mr. Wright is better off than any others of us, having a paid helper on each side of the river in charge of the Mexican churches. In El Paso it is now our best male member and late deacon here, and in Juarez it is the late best student in the Tr. School, who was licensed to preach at our meeting in April 1892. At all events I beg that no transfers over a distance of 1225 miles be made before we have had a chance to talk over these things together. Also, it will be over two years since a representative of the Board was with us. Can you not send one to our annual meeting next June?

Of course I should be glad to have reinforcements, to enable us to work the sierra field; but in the present distress I do not feel like urging you to send the new man just yet. Also it is not yet certain that Mr. Case cannot return to us, though I am not sanguine of his recovery to a degree sufficient for this. And with his children reaching an age where they need advantages in the U.S., the influence of family friends may be pretty strong against their return on this acct.

You will hardly want to ask questions again soon, after this long letter!

There is nothing on the first two pages which need be withheld from publication, if you wish to make an item regarding the "revolution" or other matters.

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Dec. 25, 1893.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

The copy of the Appropriations made for the work of this Mission during the coming year, together with your kind and hopeful letter of comment on the situation, designed for the secretary of the Mission, came in due course of mail, and the documents were at once started around the circle of stations in the four different States, for the information of the brethren. It is of course a great disappointment not to have any of the contingents included, and to have even the regular items cut down still further; but under the circumstances I do not see how the Committee could have done better, and at all events it brings some consolation to know the worst!

Your latter letter, regarding the location of forces, and the needs of the boarding schools, I cannot answer until after my trip to El Paso, whither I go to-night, to lecture to the students for a week, while Mr. Wright goes to visit his old field in company with Mr. Olds, taking in Cusi., Guerrero, and other points.

Our Christmas service, of which a program is enclosed, was grandly successful last night, there not being seats enough for all who attended, and the interest manifested was marked.

Wishing for you God's best gifts for the new year, I am

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Jan. 9, 1894.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 1st inst was received yesterday. Since I had no opportunity to speak with Mr. Olds in person, I wrote him a letter informing him of the reports regarding the moral character of Sr. Armijo, which he ought to have received in Guerrero in time to prevent the admission of the man to membership. Messrs. Wright and Olds took with them a couple of rifles, and a man to look after the horses, and doubtless expected to secure some healthful recreation in connection with their missionary work, which doubtless Mr. Wright was needing, as he has been troubled with his old headaches of late, somewhat. They did not "consult" with me regarding the advisability of making the journey; nor was it necessary for them to do so, under the system, or lack of system, under which our work is carried on. Mr. Olds still regards himself as responsible for the sierra region, although I am now the one who receives monthly reports from his helpers on that field, supplying them also with funds, and, as referred to in my last to you, that is Mr. Wright's old field; so the two very naturally arranged independently of any one else, to make the trip together. I expect to entertain them at my house on their return, the latter part of this week.

It is to be hoped that your efforts to secure a visit from a representative of the Education Society to our mission at the next annual meeting, to be held the first of June, may be successful. My own feeling is, however, that the present state of the treasury ~~of the treasury~~ is not an argument against the Board's sending to us its own representative at that time; rather it seems to me a reason for sending a man who has not been here, to see and report his personal experience of work on a foreign field. Dr. Hitchcock has been able to secure enlarged contributions to the work of the Board through his ability to give such personal testimony in his addresses to the home churches. I feel certain that the outlay involved in sending to us Dr.Creegan, for instance, or Sec.Daniels, would be found in the end a wise economy of means. Do not, then, give up the idea of having the Board represented directly.

In El Paso I gave seven lectures in the four days, preached to the congregations on both sides of the river, (so many of the members of which were formerly of the church here,) made several calls, met friends at table several times whom Mrs.Wright had kindly invited to visit me, did some shopping for several persons of this city, and unpacked and repacked two barrels of second-hand clothing sent by Mrs.Eaton's relatives in Montclair for the relief of poor in this city.

For a few days after my return I was troubled with insomnia, but am now sleeping well again. One of the New West teachers, at Trinidad, Col., Miss Clara Emerson, daughter of Prof.Joseph Emerson of Beloit College, came to spend her holiday vacation with Mrs.Wright, and gladly accepted my invitation to accompany me to Chihuahua, where she had three days, -Sat. to Monday. She manifested a most enthusiastic interest in all she saw; thought the Christian Endeavor prayer-meeting was "the best she had attended in a long time," feeling the spirit of the gathering though understanding not the Spanish. She could not refrain from taking part, and Mrs.Eaton translated for her.

We have begun the week of prayer with good attendance and an earnest spirit that promises much good. For some time past some of the women have been offering daily prayer for a special blessing upon these meetings, and there has been one case of marked conviction of sin and a resulting purpose to follow Christ.

The day school work is moving on pleasantly. As the lack of funds prevents our enlarging the boarding department, it is not unduly crowded now, and the changes effected secure to us a good degree of privacy, while the lady teachers have the full use of our patio and street door. We invited them to Thanksgiving dinner, and they returned the courtesy New Year's day. Our boarders have more beds than those in Guadalajara, but Mrs.Eaton says that the bedsteads in the latter school are better than ours. But it is of no use to talk of improvements at this time.

We have some very fine girls amongst our boarders, and could greatly increase the number, with more funds, and use the entire mission premises that way.

Faithfully yours,
James D. Eaton.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Jan. 13, 1894.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Your inquiry under date of the 4th inst is just received this morning. Our next annual meeting is to be held in this city not later than the first of June. It may be decided to meet a week earlier, in order to avoid the increasing heat. We have already tried the fall, winter and spring, and now are to prove early summer. There were two or three considerations in favor of the new date. Mr. Wright and the lady teachers would be freer to attend, as our schools close May 31. Messrs. Bissell and Crawford from hotter lands on the west coast, would rather leave their fields, at this trying time, for the cooler central table lands. And the meeting would thus be able the better to consider the Estimates for Mission expenditures for the following year.

Sessions will continue for a week or more. As I wrote you three days ago, it seems to me very certain that a visit from one of the secretaries of the Board would help the treasury, without much delay.

Yesterday Messrs. Wright and Olds returned from a successful and, I hope fruitful, trip through the sierra region, and doubtless you will soon receive an account of experiences from the former. When a meeting was announced in Guerrero, for furfther conversation with the candidates for admission to church membership, Sr. Juan Armijo heard the notice, but did not present himself with the others, to the relief of the missionaries, said Mr. Olds to me.

The $25.71 from Montclair Sunday School, which you report, completes the payment of $193.40 promised for the Meneely bell for our church. About $150 in silver was raised here, to pay bills for freight and custom house charges.

Very truly yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Jan.18,1894.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Sir:-

In reply to yours of the 11th inst,received today, I would say that it seems too bad that the state of the finances will not admit of the engagement of the lady to whom you refer,to furnish a needed teacher in the State of Sinaloa,to work in connection with the Bissells,who are meeting with so many encouragements,and are having applications from parents for a school for their children. I have no intimation of a possible retirement from the field on the part of any one of our present force of lady missionaries. At last report from the Howlands,Miss Haskins was expected back about the 25th of the present month. They are greatly inconvenienced in Guadalajara by her prolonged absence,and it seems strange that she should take the liberty of being absent from her post for so great a length of time beyond what she was granted as a vacation.

Very truly yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Jan. 20, 1894.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

As I have been requested, in the absence of Mr. Case, to gather the statistics of the mission for the year ending March 31, you will please have the blanks sent to my address.

Very truly yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Feb.8,1894.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,Sec.

My dear Dr.Clark:-

Your favor of the 19th ult. encourages me to hope for the attendance at our annual meeting of a representative of the Board. The time is now expected to be the last Sunday in May and the first in June,with the included week. Perhaps we shall get together a day or two before the former date,so as to be in running order before Sunday. So long as our Board does not adopt the plan of having ~~a~~ superintendents of missions, it seems to me that the very least it can do is to send a delegate to report to you at the center on matters here,as well as to give us such advice as we may seem to require,and would probably ask for,while the representative is here. The Northern Methodists have,I think,both superintendents and presiding bishops. There is a special call for the sending of such a delegate this year,in view of the unsettled sate of the training school question,involving as it does the matter of the best distribution of our forces. You may remember that at Guadalajara one year ago we voted a certain way,by a small majority,adopting a rule resembling Speaker Reed's method,to oblige the ladies to be counted as present and voting. Then while I was in the U.S. in the summer,a vote was taken by correspondence,as provided for by our constitution,resulting in a majority in favor of locating Mr. Howland in El Paso with Mr.Wright, which disposition fortunately was not confirmed by the Prud.Com. Our action this year will perhaps be still further embarrassed by the absence in California of Mr.Case,thus reducing the voting male members to six,of whom two will probably wish to refrain from an expression by ballot of their wishes,because of their being directly interested, and another,Mr.Olds,is triply related to Mr.Wright,being brother-in-law now,besides cousin and nephew.

It seems perfectly plain that, with Mr.Case away from his field, we cannot put two men in the School; yet some might vote for it, at the same time asking for a new man. Also, it seems to me that the training school must be organized on a somewhat different basis. I could not help feeling that my lectures on Biblical Theology were out of place, with regard to the greater part of my hearers. Most of the students are mere boys, and with very slender attainments, some knowing scarcely more than how to read. If they are carried along by us for as many years as they ought to be, (in order to be prepared to carry the responsibilities for which they are fitting themselves,) they will not only have occasioned us a large expense, but will be in a fair way to continue a charge upon the Mission, the result in some respects being like that reached through the education in the U.S. of native preachers for foreign countries.

As yet we may be said not to have a single school to fit candidates for the training school. True, some small boys are taken into our schools for girls; but that is all. The boys' school we did have in this city, years ago, under charge of Mr.Wright, was such a school; but since it was closed, there has been none to take its place. When Sec.Hitchcock was here, he said emphatically that we ought to have a boys' school in this city. Perhaps there ought to be one in each of three or four States. If we cannot have them, I should be inclined to favor making the El Paso school similar to the other schools of what was the New West, only with a stronger Christian influence, with the idea of aiding pecuniarily some of the more promising pupils, (no matter if some of them should afterwards adopt teaching as a profession, or choose some other line of occupation for making their living,) and exercising a constant watchfulness in order to discern aptitudes for the work of the ministry, and to help a few choice young men into that work. At present, about all who go to El Paso, expect to become preachers, and are expected by their friends to become such. It is a forcing process which in my judgment is sure to have an unfortunate influence, both upon the youths themselves and upon the native churches.

When the training school was started, it had a primary department for both sexes, in charge of the lady teacher commissioned by the New West. But Mr.Wright

James D. Eaton

thought he could not manage the numerous classes without the constant help of the other teacher, who had but a small number of pupils, and so the department was suspended. Supt. E. Lyman Hood's emphatic remark at the time was: "That lets out the New West." If a mixed school, such as I have suggested, should be started, perhaps that would make the Education Society feel better satisfied, and so more ready to continue its partnership with us. At present, it does seem as if the Board and the Home Miss'y Society were the only ones directly benefited.

I shall hardly undertake to repeat my arguments in favor of sending us a delegate. May we not confidently expect the appointment of such a one?

I think I have already told you that I have consented to gather the statistics of our work this year, in the absence of the Sec. Probably you will send me the blanks soon. I am at present superintending the work of four native preachers and two colporteurs, besides three native school teachers. Mr. Wright has to look after only two preachers, and this in person, with no need to write letters in regard to reports x from them. Mr. Olds has but one colporteur and two teachers; Mr. Crawford one helper (preacher) and one colporteur; Mr. Bissell nothing at present; Mr. Howland four men and one women.

Last week I visited our work in Jimenez and Atotonilco, going quickly by rail. One was received on confession in each place, and meetings were largely attended. To the latter place I carried a 33 lb. bell, of steel composition, paid for by the tuition fees, and we had the satisfaction of ringing it for the meeting for the first time. It will greatly help in bringing the children more promptly to the day school. On the train I read Gen. Howard's book on Gen. Zack. Taylor, which he gave me last July when I dined with him and family on Governor's Island, and have today fulfilled my promise to write him my opinion of it.

Since my last to you I have had a reckoning with the lady teachers on the subject of the Boarding School, which, as I feared, has run itself into debt about $300. To pay this off, we have sent away two girls to teach for a year, and dismissed others, cutting down the number almost one-half. It is crippling and disappointing enough. My report to Mr. Ward shows that, through the high price of exchange, regular appropriations have met all the extras voted this mission, and left a handsome balance in the treasury of the Board.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, March 10, 1894.

Chihuahua, Feb. 8. '94

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Dr. Clark:-

Your favor of the 23rd ult. brought us good tidings indeed, in the announcement that Dr. Daniels will attend our annual mission meeting in this city, beginning on Thursday the 31st May. The Com. of arrangements had already fixed upon this slightly later date, before hearing from you, on account of Bro. Bissell's declining to come earlier. [He wishes to finish his round of tours for the season before coming.] The school year at El Paso also will end on Wednesday, giving to Dr. Daniels, I suppose, that one day to meet the students, upon his arrival from Denver. Leaving El Paso at 8 P.M. he will reach this city the next morning at 7 o'clock, in company with the brethren who come by that route. He will receive the warmest kind of a welcome, and all will highly prize the privilege of enjoying his fellowship and counsel.

Immediately upon the receipt of your letter I wrote to Bro. Howland in reference to his church edifice, giving him the opportunity either to send me the facts concerning the debt, or to communicate directly with you, as he might see fit. His answer might have come by this time; if he writes me anything, I will send it on to you at once. As regards the church here, - after allowing for what we may reasonably hope to receive during the current year in weekly offerings, I figure the debt [at the present rate of exchange] at $1,225 gold. Two years ago last month a Mr. Van Vleck, of Montclair, N.J., (and a personal friend of Mrs. Eaton's mother, in whose memory the building was erected,) promised my wife to give $500 toward it. His pastor, Dr. Bradford, has told me more than once that he considers the money sure, and so I have always counted upon this sum. Were that in hand, the debt would be only $725. But how the financial stringency of the past six months may have affected Mr. Van Vleck, who is interested somewhat in silver mines in Arizona, I think, Your circular letter in regard to the temporary appointment of the Rev. J. L. Barton as your assistant, was received in due course of mail, and was at once started around the circle of stations, for the information of my associates. While glad that you are to have much needed help, my wife and I already feel orphaned at the prospect of losing your official letters, always so full of quick brotherly sympathy and wise fatherly counsel. You have richly earned your rest, but it will leave us feeling bereaved and poor.

No blanks have yet come to hand to aid me in gathering the statistics of the work for the year which closes March 31.

Affectionately yours,

James D. Eaton

is unknown to me. No interest on the debt has been paid at any time. When it was a good deal larger, about $1,500 of it was carried by means of the courtesy of the Prud.Committee, who voted to allow me to overdraw my account temporarily, as mission treasurer. From the beginning of the enterprise ~~until now~~, dating from the first purchase of land, before action was secured from the Committee, [as Sec.Hitchcock was informed, confidentially, when he was here, more than two years ago], Mrs.Eaton lent all of her little patrimony, about $1,000 (received as a legacy from her uncle, A.S.Barnes,) and a part of it is still so lent. The remaining part of the debt is carried through my possession, as treasurer, of certain balances of trust funds, sums given for certain objects, and not yet called for. So that on the first of Jan.last my semi-annual statement, duly audited, showed that the treasurer of this mission was not in the debt of Treas.L.S.Ward. But it will bring great relief to have all obligations cleared off this year, if it be a possible thing, through the help which you have hopes of securing for us.

My allusion to our boarding school, at the close of the letter written Feb.8, was too brief to convey an adequate idea of the situation. I had foreseen the coming embarrassment ever since my return here in August, and several times warned Miss Dunning, once remarking to her that for weeks previous to a certain payment on account, I had been giving her more than the entire appropriation for the two ladies' salaries and the support of the school. As I knew the ladies were trying to save money for their summer vacation, I feared this indicated that a large deficit would be incurred, especially as quite a balance againt the school, from the first half of the year, had been charged against the appropriation available for the second half. Miss Dunning of course could know at any time the situation; for she keeps the accounts and gives them each quarter to the mission treasurer. When the time for reckoning came finally, I held a consultation with the two teachers and Mrs.Eaton. They preferred to pay off all the debt this year, rather than carry any of it over into the next. Then we canvassed the list of boarders, and decided whom to keep, whom to send out to teach, and whom to dismiss to their homes. We were sure it would be in vain to ask aid from the Board; for (1) our request for an additional $100 [contingent] for this year had been denied (2) we could not ask except through vote of the Mission,, nor even then, (3) unless willing to have the sum deducted from appropriations for the year 1895! Our cutting down would have been even more serious, were it not for some of the missionaries' becoming personally responsible for the support of a few of the girls.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, March 28, 1894.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

On the 10th inst I wrote you regarding the approaching annual meeting of the mission, the debts on the two church edifices and the Chihuahua boarding school, adding a postscript on the 13th. Now I have to acknowledge your notes of the 9th and 13th regarding a readjustment of missionaries' salaries and the making of our estimates in American money. Copies of the communications have already been prepared to send to all the stations at once.

The influence of a R.C. bishop in this city for five months past is clearly seen in a stricter observance of Holy Week this year than for a long time hitherto on the part of the faithful, who have attended the services in mucr larger numbers than we had been accustomed to see for a half dozen years at least. Yet, though circumstances prevented our holding special meetings through the week, we were greatly encouraged by the large attendance upon the regular services at our church, especially upon Palm Sunday and Easter. On the latter date there were forty present at the service for English-speaking peopbe. A Mexican lady, Roman Catholic, a musician by profession, sang for us then, and at the Spanish service in the evening, most beautifully. At the close of the day she said to me that she wished to unite with our church; that though she had attended our meetings but a few times, she had found in them much more consolation than in her own church, and that her mother, who had been the great obstacle in the way, no longer opposed her wishes.

And now I am constrained, though with great reluctance, to present a matter which may occasion you some regret and disappointment. It is twelve yearr this month since I received the prized commission of the Board to occupy the unworked field of Northern Mexico, and, notwitnstanding some experiences of impaired health, it has been my hope to be able to spend at least eighteen or twenty years in the service here, if not my life. However, since resuming work here last August, before my health was fully reëstablished, it has been hard to meet the demands of the position, and now, with the hot season just at hand, I am regretfully obligedx to admit that my strength is not sufficient for it, and fear that unless relief be soon found, the "break down" may be more serious than twelve months ago. I must probably leave the work entirely, or have my energies revived in some way.

Work at this station should be vigorously pushed, and it calls for a man of exceptionally vigorous health to do it justice. [1] There is as yet no ordained native preacher in northern Mexico, and while the "helper" I have is very useful in leading a meeting occasionally in church or private house, visiting in families, looking after a hundred subscribers to our Protestant papers, opening the reading room, and caring for the church building, I never think of having him or any one else occupy the pulpit when I am at home. [2] I am responsible for the care of three out-stations, and at present look after still another one in the sierra region, -the nearest being 145 miles distant. [3] I have to keep the accounts [with them and with the Bible Agency in Mexico City] of two colporteurs, and, partly in that connection, I do a much larger book business than is done at any other station of our mission. [4] There is the considerable care of the treasurer's office. I have to write about one hundred letters a month, some of them lengthy. A contribution must go to "El Testigo" twice a month, the Montclair church which pays my salary receives a letter each month, etc. Just now I have two extras, viz. the secretary's work [Mr. Case being away], and the preparation of program for our annual meeting. At only two other stations could the treasurer's work be done, El Paso and Guadalajara. But Mr. Wright has said that he could not be hired to do this, and he has the training school. Mr. Howland is rather far to one side, and he has the paper, "El Testigo". Besides, the details of the accounts are not so difficult for me to attend to as they would be for some of the other brethren.

Because at no one of our stations is more than one ordained missionary to be found at present, I have hesitated to propose the sending of another to my help. Yet with two men here the sierra region might, by a division of labor, be looked after pretty well from this city; and a field of so much promise [see Mr. Wright's letter in April "Herald"] ought not to be neglected so much as it has been since neither Mr. W. nor Mr. Olds has been able to reside in it.

During these twelve years, my longest absence from my post has been for only three and a half months, and these vacations have been much less frequent than was recommended by the physicians in Chicago, who in 1884 advised my going north each year during three or four of the hottest months, and the Prudential Committee most kindly authorized me to do so. But in 1885 Mr. Dutton died at this station, and I stayed here the entire summer. In 1886 the Wrights came in July, so that I went to the U.S. only for a month or two. In '87 and '88 I went for about two months to the sierras and there continued the work, introducing the Wrights to it the latter year. In '89 and '90 I did not even leave this city during the heat. In '91 I went to the U.S. in August and stayed till after the Board meeting in Pittsfield, -not for my health, but in the interests of our church building. In '92 I stayed closely at home all summer, building the church. In '93 I broke down and went north at the end of April, until the middle of August.

I could not expect any other missionary to move here each summer to take my place; and yet an absence of three months, in the sierra or the U.S., would involve some loss of ground, which could be regained only by redoubled efforts on my return. If it be not practicable to station another missionary here, the only solution of the problem would seem to be to find a man of most vigorous health to take my place, and so release me entirely from service under the direction of the Board. I do not like to think of all that this would imply, -the sundering of present relations with certain churches and auxiliaries at home, that are highly valued by my wife and myself; the leaving of the Pratt Memorial edifice in this city; separation from the varied and interesting work of the missionary, after which that of a pastor in the home land might seem tame, especially if my strength should prove equal to the carrying of but a small responsibility; and, not least, the loss of association with the executive officers of the Board who have been so uniformly considerate and sympathetic, -though the wrench would not be quite so severe perhaps, now that you yourself are planning for an early retirement from the position which has made you so near and dear to us.

I would not act precipitately, nor even, if constrained finally to resign my commission, should I wish to leave my post unoccupied, if it be possible with safety to hold on until the arrival of a successor. Two years ago my father, brother Edward and others said that I ought to have a clerk or office assistant. But I told them that would be impracticable; for a man who could use the two languages and be safely entrusted with a knowledge of mission affairs, would command at least as much salary as a married missionary, and yet would not be occupied for half the time. A young missionary, who would not think it beneath him to render similar assistance for a small part of the time, while holding himself responsible for a share of the general station work, and to be left in sole charge for a few months in summer, would meet "a long-felt want"! Our summer climate is much better than that of the greater part of Texas, and far more endurable than what Bros. Bissell and Crawford experience.

After hearing from you, it may be best to broach the subject of my possible retirement to my associates, by means of a circular letter. Certainly the matter will call for some action at our annual meeting two months hence. This is another reason why it is very important to have Dr. Daniels with us at that time.

Any considerations that may be suggested by your wide experience would be most gratefully received by me.

Since beginning this letter I have received yours of the 20th inst, dashing our hopes of early aid in paying off our church debt.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico,
April 14, 1894.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

You have already learned, through Mrs. Crawford's letter, of the sad loss we have sustained. She did not telegraph me, as she ought to have done; and the letter sent a few hours after her husband's death, which ought to have reached me on Friday or Saturday, did not arrive until Monday the 9th. It was a pathetic letter, showing how much she needed counsel, and yet how reluctant she was to have any expense or trouble incurred on her account.

I telegraphed my intention to leave on the first train for this place, and arrived at sunrise of the 12th inst.

My chief care has been to arrange for the safe and speedy transfer of the property which was held in Bro. Crawford's name, to a representative of the Board, - while the widow and four little children are still together and easily to be summoned by the judge. But as the law requires publication for 30 days, I could not arrange to stay here myself to see the business concluded, and I have therefore given a power of attorney to a Mr. J. F. Stultz, a Christian gentleman in business here, who had been of assistance to Mr. C., and who is now most sympathetic and helpful toward the afflicted wife. To get a power of attorney from an officer of the Board in the U.S.- properly certified to by various officials in both countries, might require two months' time, before beginning transactions here. Meanwhile Mrs. Crawford might have to retire with the children from the summer heat; and then the business would become very complicated; unless, indeed, the widow and all her children could come back in the autumn for the settlement.

It seemed clearly best to secu action appointing Mrs. C. executrix and another person, as guardian of the minor heirs, and take the other legal steps necessary for the transfer of the property to myself; then at the Conference in Chihuahua I trust we shall be able to unite in a recommendation to the Board, as to the best way of holding its property in future. The second transfer by myself ought not to cost more than \$30 to \$40 gold. The taking of the steps outlined above may cost \$100 to \$150. If for anything like the latter sum we can secure the complete disentanglement of the property from any claims by minor children, we shall be fortunate indeed. The making of a will here by Mr. C. would not have avoided this trouble; because a man cannot devise to others than his lawful heirs, more than about one-tenth of his possessions.

The buildings I have not examined with care, but judge them to be in good condition. The high wall enclosing the garden seems to be constructed in a very substantial manner.

Mrs. Cranford had already shipped her husband's library and writing-desk, which he made himself, to Pomona, Calif, with the help of a brother who was here a few days, and was hoping to follow herself in two or three weeks, but now she will plan to tarry longer, to see the business settled. Personally, she would prefer to remain in the work, and here, could she be useful as a Bible reader e.g.; but thinks she ought to take the children to the U.S. She hopes in Calif. to work still for the Mexicans; says Mr. C's brother would help her somewhat, and she could earn money.

She makes no request of the Board except for help to get away: but it is my feeling that she ought to receive aid, even after she has been transported. There is no life insurance, and no property, practically, except a piece of ground in Southern Calif, partly paid for, that is planted with young orange trees; and this cannot yield any income for three or four years yet. Until she leaves here, her income allowed by the Board will be that of a single lady, plus the children? How about expenses for physician, medicines and burial? As to a modest monument, we missionaries shall wish to contribute aid. I am treating now with a stone-cutter.

Probably there is little or nothing left of the outfit of 12 years ago, which could be considered as belonging t the Board. Within a few years furniture has been bought, that M C. would be glad to turn over, at fair compensation, to any missy family that may be sent. Otherwise she will sell to people here.

I have written to Mr. Case to learn whether he could entertain a proposition looking toward residence here, since he thought a low altitude might suit his physical condition. There is only one native helper (now at La Colorada) Eugenio Rodriguez, whom we may temporarily put in charge of the congregation here, - leaving the other unsupplied. In July & August Miss Burrows may have to leave for a cooler refuge; but even though all missionaries may be wanting for a time, I hope to have the aid of Mr. Stultz in caring for the property and other interests.

I hope to reach my home in Chihuahua by the end of next week. Kindly send directions for any guidance. Of course I cannot well entertain just now the idea of leaving Mexico myself (See letter of Mar. 28/29) Enclosed find an obituary notice for the Herald, which I have read to Mrs. Crawford for her approval or criticism. May a merciful Father preserve the rest of us alive, until at least the vacancies shall have been supplied.

Mr A. L. Williston's party was expected yesterday in Chih^{a}. I deeply regret my inability to show him attention.

Faithfully yours,
James D. Eaton

Hermosillo, Apr. 14, 1894
Rec'd Apr. 23.

Benson, Arizona, Apr. 17.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark:-

My dear Sir:-

On the 15th inst. I wrote you at length from Hermosillo, and mentioned the kindness shown Mrs. Crawford by a Mr. James F. Stultz, of that city, to whom I have given a power of attorney, that he may aid in settling important matters of business. He does not expect any pecuniary compensation; but I think a line of acknowledgment from you would be appreciated by him. The Crawfords have known him for two years; during a part of which time he lived in Nogales, on the border, cooperating with the Cong^l Home Missionary. He is from Ohio, descended on his mother's side from the Plymouth Colonists, a member of the Baptist church, but not a sectarian. He is probably descended from the Moravians, through his father.

I wrote you something about the doctor's bills, but have no copy of it. The first physician was paid $16.- & dismissed. The second made out an extortionate bill (14 or 15 visits) for $200. He refused to settle for $75 which was offered him. After my arrival he sent again, but finally gave receipt in full for the smaller sum, when Mrs. C. by my advice, stood firm, while once more renewing the offer of $75, — or $50 in addition to the $25 he demanded after the first visit to the patient. Another $25 was spent for medicines. Total $116 Mexican, which is a little less than $60 gold, however, I await instructions before refunding this to Mrs. C.

Yesterday I was able to make arrangements, very satisfactory to her, for the erection of a modest monument, and the enclosure of the grave by an iron chain supported on six stone posts, I shall propose to the missionaries the payment of one-half the cost leaving the rest to be met by Mrs. C. and her husband's brothers.

It has been a real privilege to bring counsel and comfort to the afflicted wife, and help and hope (I trust) to the little flock. My own strength seems to hold out well. I left at six o'clock last night, & hope to reach home day after tomorrow morning.

Very Truly Yours,

James D. Eaton.

Rev. J. D. Eaton

Benson, Apr. 17. 1894.

Rec'd Apr. 23.

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Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, April 24,1894.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Upon my return from Hermosillo on the 19th inst., I found your favors of March 31 and April 2 regarding the limits within which the estimates for next year should be brought, and others bearing the dates of April 6 and 10 which brought the very kind suggestions as to the care of my health, and reported the glorious news of the extinction of our church debt. The following day I wrote a careful letter to Mr.Joseph Van Vleck of Montclair, who promised the $500, and sent it under cover to Rev.Dr.Bradford, his pastor. I hope for the best from this plain statement of the case. It seemed almost a special providence that threw me into company with a partner of Mr.Van Vleck, a Mr.Lewis Williams of Bisbee, Arizona, when on my way to Sonora. He overheard me speaking to a minister on the train, of Montclair, and came forward to ask if I happened to be acquainted with a Mr.Van Vleck of that town, where he himself was only last fall. He told me that they were doing pretty well with their mines, which produce copper and gold as well as silver. Both of these gentlemen are deeply interested in gospel work amongst the workmen at the mines.

The glad tidings did have something of the effect of a tonic upon me, though it seemed almost selfish in me to rejoice in this way, when others had been freshly plunged into sorrow. My own sympathies of course had also been very deeply enlisted in behalf of the bereaved family, congregation and mission. So do joys and griefs mingle in our earthly experience. I am very grateful for this timely aid, and should be glad to have you express to the Committee, when suitable occasion offers, my hearty appreciation both of this great generosity and of their kind indulgence toward me personally in proposing the taking of a furlough for rest and recuperation. But, as suggested in my letter from Hermosillo, this is not a time for thinking of myself, if I can work along for a while yet, without too great risk to health. With our mission deprived of both Mr.Case and Mr.Crawford, and Mr.Bissell needing rest, [I have felt quite anxious in view of his recent illness because Mr.Crawford had been weakened the past winter by an attack of the same la grippe], and probably Mr.Howland, whom Mr.Wright reports as looking badly, I must hold on yet, if it do not involve too great a sacrifice.

As Mr.Case had formerly expressed a hope that a lower altitude might be found favorable to his constitution, I wrote to know whether he could entertain the idea of going to Hermosillo now; but he thinks he could not in any event return to Mexico before a year from next autumn. I feel pretty sure that Mr.B.will feel great reluctance to leave Sinaloa even for a short time, and the Mission would be very sorry to have him abandon that field. The distances are so enormous that he could not manage the work in two States with a couple of native helpers, and suitable natives cannot be had at present. He has been earnestly calling for a couple of men for his present field alone.

If that young man in Union Sem. can be secured, perhaps the Board might ask Mrs.Crawford to remain for a year in Hermosillo, should he not be married before. I think I remarked in my long letter written on the 14th inst. that she would be glad to serve the Board in some capacity, later if not now. Her children are not so old but that she might stay another year now, it seems to me.

The last paragraph shows that your letter of the 14th also has come to hand, on yesterday. I await with interest your response to my communication from Hermosillo.

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, May 2, 1894.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Your note of the 17th ult. addressed to me at Hermosillo followed me home; and today I have yours of the 26th, which has made wonderfully quick time. In writing yesterday to Mrs. Crawford, who had sent me items of expense incurred in connection with the sickness and burial of her husband, I made the very same suggestion to her, which you received, as now reported, from Mr. Ward, viz. that these payments might be made from the salary which the Committee had so promptly voted to continue, unless indeed she should prefer to ask for a special grant to meet them. Before hearing of the Committee's action, she wrote that she would "rather not ask help from the Board" beyond the meeting of the above-named expenses and her transportation to Pomona, Cal, saying that "the work probably needed the money more" than she did, and arguing: "If I depend entirely on the Lord, He will more gladly help me; -don't you think He will?" I asked her whether she expected Him to send his angel to her relief, as in olden times, or whether He might not be using the Board as his agent to meet her present need, having perhaps other plans for aiding her subsequently. She wrote me an eight page letter, and in replying to that and another one from the lawyer in the case, I spent the entire morning. I had previously written nine letters to her and others in Hermosillo since leaving there. So you see this business is making me a little extra work right along. This is a mañana country; yet some legal steps have been taken since I started the movement, and it is to be hoped that so serious obstacles may be encountered in the way of transferring the property as desired.

In regard to my going there, it was a perfectly plain case, since I could not be called a sick man. Mr. Wright had gone to Guadalajara to attend the Sunday School convention of all denominations, in my place, most providentially as it ap-

Rev. James D. Eaton
1894

peared afterward. I was thus the nearest (in time,) to the need, besides being the mission treasurer. Mr. Bissell had just been reported as in very frail health, turned back from his last tour by a return of fever; but even though he had been in a condition to make the toilsome journey at once, he would have had to return for his family, and would have spent at least two-thirds of the sum necessary to take me there, perhaps quite as much, if not more, through hastening his way thither. Mrs. Crawford turned naturally to me as a sort of business manager, and did not even write to a single other station. When I reached El Paso one week after the death, [it is but two days distant from Hermosillo] Mrs. Wright knew nothing of what had occurred; and even the Howlands and Bissells got their first inkling of it through postal cards from me explaining why I should be absent from the treasurer's office for ten days or more. Mrs. Crawford should have telegraphed; but she was afraid of causing trouble, and her letter was delayed on the way three days. Amongst other things she wrote: "Will wait here till I hear by letter from you. Please tell me what to do. Please tell me how the accounts stand, mission and personal, if you can; and see if it is necessary for some one to come here to take charge of property, etc....... I do wish you could come over to settle up; for I am so ignorant as to all the affairs; left all the accounts to Mr. C." My letter to you on the 24th ult. reports Mr. Case's inability to come to H.

At present I am securing, by constant watchfulness, a good amount of sleep, and have almost entirely recovered from a severe cold contracted during the recent sudden change of climate to the West coast. And in the present stress, as before stated, I have no thought of going to the U.S. this year, either permanently or for a vacation. The sierra region is bereft of a missionary, as you know; and I am hoping to be able to go to Guerrero with my family, immediately after the annual meeting, to hold preaching services there and in the vicinity, for a few weeks. Things in this city will of course run behind a little, as we have no competent native preacher; but the work as a whole will gain, and I shall escape a part of the summer heat thus. We are very glad to hear that Dr. Daniels has really started toward us.

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

a 5/10 File

CHIHUAHUA, May 4, 1894.

Rev. Dr. Charles H. Daniels,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Sir:-

We are very glad to hear from Boston that you have actually started for Mexico, and hope you may be greatly prospered in your journey toward us. Probably you will leave Denver early on Monday morning May 28, so as to reach El Paso Tuesday P.M., and having had twenty-four hours with the school there, meet us at the breakfast table Thursday morning. It will be a great privilege to receive you into our foreign home. You will find the sun's rays pretty hot at midday, but within the shelter of our thick walls and roofs you will not suffer, I trust. Could you extend your journey to Parral, as did Dr. Hitchcock, doubtless it would be helpful to the work and gratifying to Mr. and Mrs. Olds.

I shall endeavor to get half fare permit for you on the Mexican Central, when I apply for some of the missionaries, but it will be a small matter anyway.

We doubt not you will consent to preach on Sunday afternoon to a congregation consisting of the missionaries and some of the foreign residents here.

Reserving further "remarks" until we shall have you within easy reach, and with kind regards to Dr. Hitchcock, if you meet him after receiving this, I remain

Sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton.

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Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, May 19, 1894.

Chihuahua, Mexico.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Sec.

My dear Sir:-

Referring to your favor of April 28, -if Mrs. Wickham had visited Chi~~cago~~huahua on her trip to Mexico, she would have found in the hotels printed notices of our church services, and might perhaps have received also a printed handbill on the same subject, although our efforts to get travellers to attend worship in either language have not been crowned with much success.

Yours of May 2 and 9 were pleasantly confirmatory of the rumor which had reached us, of the appointment of Mr. Horace T. Wagner to service in this country. Two days ago I wrote him three full pages, in answer to numerous inquiries of his. Final arrangements as to his outfit etc. cannot be made until after he shall have received word from our annual meeting, and of decision of the Prud. Com. in view of any action taken here. He ought not to go to not Hermosillo before Sept., though he could come here, 4000 feet higher, a month earlier. The Bissells reached Hermosillo last Monday the 14th, and Mrs. Crawford writes me that Mr. B. seems willing to entertain the idea of spending a year there, until the new man can get some hold of the Spanish. She thinks her duty to her children requires her to leave for the U.S. as soon as the business affairs can be settled. The prospect is now that all the legal steps necessary for the transfer of the property, will have been taken in a week more.

At the annual meeting of our church held last week, the idea was advanced that, in view of the lifting of the debt on our building, and the limited resources of the Board, and as a step toward the support of a native pastor when one shall be ready for us, we ought to attempt the support, at least in part, of a student in the training school. The proposition met with favor, but owing to the lateness of the hour, the subject was put over till the next Sunday, May 13, the day named by the

Committee for united prayer; after morning service an hour was devoted to the subject, with the gratifying result that pledges were made by individuals for the payment, over and above the ordinary weekly offerings toward current expenses, of $125.00 Mex. for the coming school year, and tomorrow the brethren will decide whether to send a new student, or, what is more likely, to elect one of our church members already in the school as our representative, expecting to receive letters from him, and to pray for him especially. This will release so much toward the support of a new student. We missionaries did not promise a cent toward this fund, although of course we have more calls made upon our slender resources, for various objects, than we can meet. But we wanted this to be an offering entirely by the natives. This meant a great deal of sacrifice on the part of some, one good sister for example pledging one-quarter the wages she receives as a house servant after receiving her food. Owing to the "hard times" our pecuniary ability is considerably less than it was two years ago. Several of our families have gone to El Paso, and others have little work to do.

Miss Holcomb tells me that she has written to you in expression of her conviction that the state of her health will not permit of her continuing longer in the work. We are very sorry for this, and the decision comes to us very unexpectedly. But if the special permission accorded to her to return north each summer has not secured to her sufficient relief, I do not see what more can be done. She is an excellent teacher and has done conscientious work in her special line; but her limited strength has not permitted her to do anything more, not even to teach in Sunday School, much less make calls in the people's homes, as of her pupils. When we learned after her arrival, how delicate her health had been in Montclair, we were surprised that she had passed successfully the medical examination required by the Board. But her health has been even more frail since living here, and it does not promise early amendment, nor lead us to hope for any improvement.

Is the lady of whom you wrote me Jan'y 11, (acquainted with the Spanish and then in Oak Park, Fla.,) still available for us?

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, May 22.1894.

Langdon S.Ward,Esq.

My dear Sir:-

It is somewhat more than a month since,in a letter to Dr.Clark,I suggested the sending of a line to Mr.James F.Stultz,Hermosillo, State of Sonora,Mexico,in acknowledgment of his many kindnesses to the stricken family and to the mission. But on the 19th inst,when Mrs.Crawford last wrote me, no such letter had been received by Mr.Stultz; and it is probably there has been some failure in the mails,or misunderstanding otherwise. Mr.S. is one of the few men who do not lose their Christianity in crossing the Rio Grande. He belongs to the Baptist church,having probably descended from the Moravians on his father's side,and on his mother's from the Plymouth colony [the Brewsters?]. While living in Nogales,Arizona,he was helpful to our home missionary there;and for a year or so he has attended the Mexican services in Hermosillo,being a valued helper in the work. During Mr.Crawford's sickness he helped to take care of him,and since the death,his counsel and sympathy have been highly prized. When I could not remain for the month or six weeks required for transacting the legal business,I gave to Mr.S. a power of attorney,that he might sign the final papers for the transfer of the property to myself,pending the decision of the Board,by and with the advice of the Mission at the near annual meeting,in regard to the best manner of holding the real estate in Mexico. In case Mrs.Crawford should have to retire from the premises before another person could come to take charge,Mr.S.agreed to look after the place,occupying a room there,as his own family is in the U.S. By Mrs.Crawford's wish he has already moved into the mission house,and will save thereby a trifling sum for rent. But all that he has done has been performed for the sake of Christian brethren,and without thought of pecuniary return. When a lawyer,who had pushed himself into the case,began to practise extortion, Mr.S.dismissed him,and has done some clerical work himself,that will save money to the Board. Now will you yourself kindly send the suggested note of acknowled

Chihuahua, May 19. 94
Rec'd May 24

ment? Also, the first judge, Señor Arvizu, (I do not remember his Christian na

before whom the case had to be presented, is a neighbor to Mrs. Crawford, a frie

of her late husband, and has rendered great service in expediting the case, when

he might have hindered it, and has saved us some legal fees by helping in the p

aration of papers to come before himself. He understands English quite well, a

doubtless would greatly appreciate a word from you. He is one of the numerous

"liberals" of this country, and has imbibed some of the ideas of the Spiritists

A note to him would better be enclosed in one to Mrs. Crawford.

I think you are aware that the property was held in the name of Mr. Crawfo

pending a final decision of the rather difficult question. The laws do not al

one to devise by will more than one-tenth of one's property to persons who are

heirs at law. The widow has one-half, and the children one-half. The difficul

was with the minor children in this case. But the judge would order the appoi

ment of a legal guardian for them, who would obtain permission from the court f

the sale of the property at "public auction", and would name Mrs. Crawford exec

trix, and so keep matters in our own hands, since the judge knew that both Mrs.

and the representatives of the Board had one and the same object in view, viz.

the transfer of the property ~~xf thxxpxxpx~~ in such a manner as to secure it for

the uses orignally intended. While of course it is not wise to speak yet with

entire confidense, it is expected that all will be satisfactorily arranged by

the third or fourth of June next.

I have written more fully than was intended at the beginning, but these

planations may not have been superfluous.

Four days ago I wrote asking for funds.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

Rev. James D. Eaton, May 22

May 28, 1894.

Secretary Clark

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, June 12,1894.

Rev.Dr.N.G.Clark,

My dear Sir:-

Enclosed you will find the Estimates for 1895 as adopted by our mission at its late meeting, and ordered sent to Boston by the committee. We kept as closely as possible to the lines followed this present year. For a missionary to take Mr.Case's place, we allowed as much as the latter would have had with his four children. There is still, you will notice, a difference of $349.81, on the right side, between the total named by the Prud.Com. and the sum of our estimates. And the figures are given in gold, as requested, on the basis of an anticipated premium in Mexican silver of seventy-five per cent. It has been ranging in the nineties for four months past. The Methodist Mission reports to me that their rate this year is the same, 1.75. It seemed hardly worth while to name any "contingents" at present, as the Board is so hard pressed for funds, and the year 1895 is still a considerable distance off.

Two new items have been introduced; [1]"Care of property in Cusi.$57.14", and "Trav.Exp. Delegate to S.S.Convention", $22.86. The former is made necessary by the present abandoned state of the mining town, where no one pays rent for a house, but has to be recompensed for staying to care for property. Should the rumor that work is soon to be resumed there, be correct, then this expense would cease. For two years past, there has been a national gathering of S.S.workers, which is of great value in bringing the representatives of the several denominations into fuller sympathy. It met this year in Guadalajara, and Bro.Howland was chairman of the Com. of arrangements. Next year it will meet in San Luis Potosí.

Statistical and other reports of the work for the past year, will be forwarded to you by our new secretary, Mr.Wright.

We had a delightful annual meeting, voted by all the brethren to be the best

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that has yet been held. No small part of this happy result was due to the presence with us of Dr.Daniels. He easily won the love and confidence of all by his intelligent sympathy with all that concerned us, and by the wisdom of his utterances that were always so pertinent and impartial. We feel exceedingly grateful to him for this visit,and thankful to all of you who had any share in bringing it about. We trust that the good fruits of it may be so manifest in Boston as to encourage the Prud.Committee to provide for periodical,if possible annual, visits to this field.

There was one thing,however,which occasioned the most of us deep regret, and which I cannot pass over in silence. Perhaps you may remember that a year or two ago,when inquiry came to us from Boston as to whether we allowed the lady missionaries to vote on matters connected with their own work,we replied that all the ladies [married and unmarried] were expected and encouraged to vote on all questions coming before the mission. This has been our habit from the beginning, twelve years ago. But the new Handbook seemed to be so stringent on this subject that we felt there was no help for us;and we meekly altered our Constitution to conform to it,only asking for the small privilege of electing any lady missionary as full delegate to the annual meeting,whenever it might be impossible for the one man to attend. I was chairman of the committee appointed to reform the constitution. To accomplish the reformation,legally for us,it was necessary to call in most of the ladies from different parts of the premises,and they in perfect silence,but without a word of criticism [knowing that all of the gentlemen,with one exception,were of the same opinion with themselves],voted to disfranchise themselves. Doubtless for certain large missions,the new rule of the Board is proper, but it is just as certain that it will work injury to us. We are scattered over such enourmous distances,that some of the missionaries cannot hope to meet, except at the annual gathering. No station has more than one ordained missionary,and so none can have more than one delegate. Ladies who have attended these meetings, sometimes at their own charges,now plan to stay away from the one in El Pasi next year; for they cannot be present in such assemblages without desiring to express an opinion on important matters discussed, and their self respect would deter them from volunteering opinions when they have just been deprived of the right to vote. The spiritual helpfulness of the meeting just past was due in no small share to the cooperation of the ladies. I for one shall exceedingly regret losing this help in the future. It seems to me that the very least that ought to be conceded in our case, is the privilege of electing a second delegate from stations that have more than three missionaries and assistant missionaries, not restricting the choice to the unmarried ladies. What is "woman's work", any way? Mrs. Howland and Mrs. Eaton are indefatigable in various lines of work, including the schools. Mrs. Crawford and Mrs. Bissell have done regular work in the school room, in the absence of a regular missionary for this department. Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Olds are very active also. Shall all of these be ruled out, when delegates for voting on woman's work are appointed? If this is to be so, my wife for one cannot consent to be supported longer as a missionary of the New Haven Branch. But I presume she will refrain from sending in her resignation to the New Haven ladies, until we get further word from Boston. Do not misunderstand me. We do not object to the placing of some limit to the attendance of delegates at the expense of the Board and who shall have power to vote at the annual mission meeting. But we do not understand why, in this age of the world, and in this distinctively Christian work for the sustaining of which the wives make at least as great sacrifices as the husbands, there should be made such a distinction between the sexes. We have taught our native Christians that in Christ there is neither male nor female, and in the business meetings of the churches both sexes vote, if of legal age. My mother was the delegate to the late meeting of the Illinois State Ass'n, from her church; but my wife could not serve in this way, according to the handbook, even though I were hindered from attending the Mission meeting myself, and this station should wish to send her in my place!

Your note of the 29th May was duly received.

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton

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Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, June 13, 1894.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

This is by way of supplement to my letter of yesterday in regard to the estimates. You have observed that the salary for a single missionary was fixed at $500 gold, with the exception of those living in Guadalajara where the cost of living is less than in these northern States, for whom the amount is ten per cent less, or $450. It may be of interest to the Prud. Committee to have a comparison made with the Methodists and Presbyterians, who chiefly occupy the more densely populated regions where the cost of living is less. The former give to a single missionary, including ladies, $750, to a married couple $1250, and $100 additional for each child. The latter allow a single lady $750, a single gentleman $1,000, a married couple $1,500, with the $100 additional for each child. While we should be better pleased were it possible for us to live comfortably on a smaller allowance, it is a source of gratification to us that we have been able to keep the figures considerably below those of all the other leading denominations. For I may add that the So. Methdoists ladies in this city are paid $750, and I believe that the ordained men receive the same as the Northern Methodists. And the Baptists receive about the same as the Presbyterians, if I mistake not.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

Chihuahua, June 12, 1894

Chihuahua, June 13, 1894

C. Guerrero, Chihª, Mexico
July 2. 1894.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:

It was very gratifying to learn from your letter, finished June 20th, that favorable consideration was likely to be given in Boston to the expressed preference of our Mission for somewhat larger liberty in the matter of women's voting and of the basis of representation at annual meetings.

We are glad also to hear that there is some hope of soon securing a lady teacher to take Miss Holcomb's place. But is Miss Hammond indeed a *teacher*? We feel that to be more important than that she should possess the Spanish at the start. We cannot afford to take into the Chihª school another who, like Miss Dunning, may be sorely disappointed to find that *she* expected to be a professional teacher, instead of a general missy worker. Were we to have four or five single ladies, like the So. Methodist school, this matter would not be of such vital importance. Mrs. Eaton expects to reopen the school, in both day & boarding depts, Sept. 1st, befor Miss D's return, with the help of a Mexican assistant; and a new teacher, knowing her business, could render some help with English classes from the first.

There is no reason why Mr. Wagner should not come to Chihuahua or Guadalajara ~~Parral~~, early in August, as I have written him though he might better wait till Sept. to settle in Sonora. Is the hope of securing Rev. Horace W. Houlding for that State? It wou be so much better to station a married man there.

If Mr. Wagner is to be stationed this side the mountain I hope it may be decided in Boston, before he leaves, if possib where he is to pass the first yea that he may not be left to mo at brief intervals through the year, from point to point, chang ing his Spanish teacher and cultivating in himself possibly a ndue thirst for novelty. The feeling was expressed at the Conference by Bro. Howland, and concurred in by the others, that his earliest acquaintance ought to be with the general work at some station in Mexico, rather than with school work & in the American town of El Paso. If it be the thought of the Prud. Com. to train Mr. Wagner to follow Bro. Howland, let him go to Guadalajara for the year. But if it be thought best to let him engage in evangelical &c. work in this Sierra region, either alone, in place of Mr. Wright and Mr. Olds who went before, or in coopera-tion with myself, (who opened the field) living in Chihuahua City and dividing with me the work there and here, both of us mak ing trips to these points, as may be arranged between us, then I should say, let him come to ny home for the year.

While I do not wish to empha-ze any personal preferences at all, ut desire to leave the settlement this question wholly to the Com-

mittee, in view of the information
gathered here by Dr. Daniels, yet I
may be permitted to say that for M
Wagner to come to us for only five
or six months, would somewhat
increase my cares, instead of
lightening them. Still I am willin
of course to take the extra respon
sibility of receiving him for only a
fraction of the year if that be con
sidered best. But unless he
be directed from Boston, as we hav
no Mission Supt, I seem to fore
see that it will result from the
proffered hospitality of the breth
ren, that he will move from plac
to place. I believe Bro. Wright
himself suggested that next Sprin
Mr. Wagner might go to help him in th
training school.

We are glad to learn thus indi
rectly that Dr. Daniels reached ho
safely. We hope he was not serio
ly delayed by such high water
occasioned much concern to
Misses Dunning & Holcomb on
their way to New Orleans.

We are busy with meetings he

Faithfully yours,
James D. Eaton
Chihuahu

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, July 31, 1894.

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton,
Boston,

My dear Sir:-

Yours of the 24th inst., regarding the location of Mr. Wagner, and one from Dr. Daniels concerning the probable appointment of Miss Hammond, reached me this morning in company, and I scarcely know how to partition my answer. Perhaps I may be permitted to address you alone, with the request that you show this to Dr. D.

If our teaching force were on hand, the girls' boarding and day school in this city should open tomorrow, after two months of vacation; but that is plainly impossible. We have had all through the summer a morning session for small children under the direction of Mexican assistants, with thirty-five scholars; and if one American lady can be here in time, Mrs. Eaton proposes to take charge again of the boarding department for a couple of months, beginning the first of Sept., leaving the day school in charge of the American teacher. Miss Dunning is not expected back until the end of October, after the meeting of the Woman's Board. The heat has already been tempered by rains, and there is no reason in the climate why the new recruit should not come here at once. So we hope Miss Hammond may find it practicable to start at once, if commissioned. We shall need considerable time for notifying the boarders, who are widely scattered over this large State, that they may be on hand at the opening of the term. You are doubtless aware that Miss Holcomb left a furnished room here, and nicer than any one else in our Mission has, [Dr. Daniels occupied it when he was here]; so that the new teacher will only need to provide herself with wearing apparel, concerning which Mrs. Eaton will write soon to Miss Hammond.

Rev. J. H. Heald, our Home missionary in Nogales, Arizona, with whom Miss Augusta Burrows is spending her vacation, has written to me, without her knowledge, that he is satisfied she cannot long endure a hot climate. She is willing to go anywhere, and sacrifice herself, and therefore she did not say anything when it was proposed here at our annual meeting that in a certain contingency she might be sent to Fuerte, Sinaloa, for a time. But I am satisfied that she ought not to go there, and it seems to Mrs. Eaton and myself that she might be allowed even to return alone to Hermosillo, to the work she has become interested in, although no missionary may be able to join her immediately, with the understanding that the colporteur, Blachly, and his wife be permitted to remain for a time in the mission house. Should the Bible work call them elsewhere, perhaps some others could be found to care for the property and furnish protection for Miss Burrows, without inviting the native helper and wife to take it, which Mrs. Crawford fears would exalt them above measure.

We earnestly hope that the right man may soon be found for filling the vacancy in the State of Sonora; but should there be some delay in accomplishing this, it would comfort Mrs. Crawford a little to have Miss Burrows at least at work there. It would be hard indeed for her to see the field entirely abandoned for the present.

It is impossible for me today to report further concerning our sojourn in the sierra, which discovered many encouraging facts and made us feel that an American stationed there would have much more ready access to the people than have any of the rest of us in our more central stations. I hope to get time soon to send something to the Herald.

Allow me to say, further, that we are much gratified to have the probable successor to Dr. Clark in the secretariat chosen from the missionary workers themselves, and are glad that you feel at liberty to accept the appointment. We doubt not that it will be for the welfare of all concerned, and pray that you may be spared for many years of this high service.

Very cordially yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Aug. 8, 1894.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,

My dear Sir:-

We are very happy these days, in the prospect of so soon welcoming Miss Hammond to the work here, a prospect made almost a certainty by your favor of the 30th ult. just at hand. Miss Lucy Harper, just appointed to take charge of the M.E. boarding and day school here, made the acquaintance of Miss Hammond in Saltillo, when the latter was temporarily filling a vacancy in the Presb. school in that Mexican city, and speaks to us in the most enthusiastic terms of Miss Hammond, saying that in her we shall secure a "prize." In my letter of last Tuesday to Dr. Barton, I spoke of the importance of her being her before the first of September, in order that, with Mrs. Eaton's help in the boarding dept, the school might open then, without more delay, and of the need of our knowing at once what to expect, so as to bring the widely scattered girls together in time. I then answered your question by anticipation, saying that Miss Holcomb left a nicely furnished room for her successor. Mrs. Eaton wrote quite fully to Miss Hammond the same week. But I might add, more explicitly, that there are also mattress, pillows, sheets, blankets etc. to furnish the bed.. So that Miss H. will need to bring nothing but her wearing apparel, and any little adornments she may wish for her room, possibly something further for the school, though she could not learn now in time what is lacking there. This can be arranged for at a later date.

In the hope of blessings to come, to church and school, and all the work, I am

Yours faithfully,

James D. Eaton

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Aug. 15, 1894.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark,
Boston,

My dear Sir:-

We are indeed glad to hear, by your letter of the 8th just received that Miss Hammond has been commissioned; but we fear, from a letter of hers which came two days ago, that she will not be able to be on hand by the first of next month, owing to the serious illness of her mother, and because, as Miss Hammond says, the Woman's Board will have to pass upon her case, and this does not meet again until Sept. But in regard to this latter point, we think Miss H. must have erred, owing to her Presb. training, perhaps. We suppose the appointment by the Am. Board to be final, though Miss H. may be adopted by the W.B.M. and her support assumed by the latter.

I think there will be no difficulty about a satisfactory division of the work; for Mrs. Eaton purposes taking upon herself that which would otherwise fall to Miss Dunning, leaving to Miss Hammond, from the beginning, only what she would be expected to do after Miss D's return. However, after the two lady teachers shall have had time to get easily to work, my wife does not expect to participate in the administration of the school, either day or boarding, except as she would naturally share in the counsels of the station at its weekly meetings, and at other special times, when matters are presented for consideration and action. And of course she always exerts a spiritual influence over the girls, not only through the prayer-meetings for women which she leads, and the practising of hymns for the church services, but through frequent contact in other ways, as, for example, in the Christian Endeavor Society.

The debt remaining on the school at the close of last year, has all been cancelled, through the reduction of expenses consequent upon the dismissal of some of the boarders; and from now on the usual number can be received.

As ever yours,
James D. Eaton.

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Sept.27,1894.

Rev.Dr.J.L.Barton,
Boston,Mass.

My dear Dr.Barton:-

Your favors of the 7th,10th,and 18th Sept.,and Dr.Clark's of the latter date,all came promptly to hand. When Miss Hammond's reduced rate permit on the Mexican Central was obtained,it was at my suggestion made available until Oct.31,to provide against contingencies,and it has been in El Paso awaiting her arrival for some time,as it was sent with one for Mr.Wagner. We have not yet heard from Miss H. directly,since her mother's death,but judge that she expects to reach this city in a week or ten days from now. Mrs.Eaton is giving ten music lessons [on the organ] each week,besides teaching a few other classes in the school. Of course she has the oversight of the boarding department also,which has had half a dozen inmates for a few weeks past. And this is in addition to her ordinary work of leading the women's meetings,making visits in the houses,presiding over the Christian Endeavor Society,and writing nearly two printed pages for each number of our semi-~~weekly~~ monthly "Testigo". It is a marvel to me that she can do anything at all for her household;yet we have had considerable company during the past month as well.

Dr.Clark may possibly remember that Miss Dunning had no special training for her work before coming here,and was much disappointed to find that she would have to teach,as she had never managed a school in her life. She has done faithful work however,and learned much by experience. Now comes a new difficulty,with the departure of Miss Hodcomb,who was a good kindergartner, following Miss Prescott, who was lent to us for two years. Miss Hammond knows nothing of such work,and we have suggested that Miss Dunning tarry three mos. more in the U.S.for studying the method,as she wished to do five years ago before leaving home. We now learn that Miss Dunning herself had thought of the same thing, and had begun to make inquiries as to the best way of obtaining what she needs. Mrs.Eaton offers to continue her work in the school, and to receive Miss Hammond into our family until such time as Miss D. may return. If you approve of this plan, will you kindly write Miss Mary Dunning to that effect, addressing her at Bound Brook, New Jersey? Her salary for this year only amounts to thirty-eight dollars U.S. per month, and she has planned to meet all her expenses for this trip to the home land herself. Yet she proposes to surrender a part of this even (if the Board will meet the expense of the kindergarten instruction) -so as to help fill her vacant place here with some hired help. But if she could manage to meet the expenses in New York, or wherever she may get the instruction, from her salary, that would be the simplest solution of the problem. Possibly favor would be shown to a missionary of the Board, through Dr.Creegan.

Mrs.E.gives this service *to the Lord*. I think she would feel more like making cordial recognition of the Board as His agent or instrument, had she not been disfranchised since the first of last June. She has always been opposed to woman's being granted the ballot in political life; but the recent action seems to be giving her a leaning in that direction. And, indeed, if the two privileges, of having a voice in the affairs of both the church and the State, are to go together, *I* am in favor of giving to women *both*. The suppression of that part of my account of our recent annual meeting [printed in the "Herald" for August] which gave expression to the overwhelming ~~majority~~ preponderance of opinion of our missionaries, was due, we hope, only to the fact that the Committee had the matter under advisement, and did not wish to have any discussion of its policy made public prematurely. But as over three months have elapsed since the report of our meeting was in their hands, and more since Dr.Daniels, returned to Boston, we hope to hear before long what is thought on the subject.

Bro.H.T.Wagner posses an admirable spirit, and doubtless will make a very useful missionary.

Sincerely Yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Oct.16,1894.

Rev.Dr.James L.Barton,
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

A letter from Dr.Clark under date of the 4th inst. reports having received two days before a letter from Miss Dunning ,Bound Brook,New Jersey, in relation to the plan for her remaining two or three months more for the sake of learning more about kindergarten methods; the facts being that we have had instruction in that line given in our school here for the past four years,first under Miss Prescott,and then by Miss Holcomb, whereas the new teacher,Miss Hammond,cannot utilize the material on hand,because she does not understand the method. so there will be no extra expense now. The letter sent to Miss Dunning from your office,probably on the 2nd,,had not reached her on the 8th,when she wrote her last to us. She was then expecting to go to Brooklyn,to study in the Pratt institute,where they kindly offered to give her instruction for such small fraction of a year as she might be able to remain there. I have copied for her the part of Dr.Clark's letter which concerns her,and told her it was evident that the Board could not aid her with funds,but that very likely she would be permitted to stay until Dec.31,as she now proposes,if she could meet the expense of living in Booklyn from her own small salary.

Miss Hammond and Mrs.Eaton are heartily in favor of Miss Dunning's remaining for the purpose indicated,although it is true that my wife could not continue for a long time working at the present rate. We like Miss H. exceedingly,and believe that she will exert a powerful influence for good in our school and this community.

Eagerly awaiting the first word from the meeting in Madison,I remain

Very sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton.

J. L. B.

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Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

11/28

CHIHUAHUA, Nov. 21, 1894.

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton,

Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

Please accept thanks for your favors of Oct. 23, 27 and 29, regarding probable changes in the Handbook, to meet the wishes of the missions, and more particularly, with respect to your taking up the duties and responsibilities laid down by Dr. Clark.

I think you have already received assurances of the satisfaction we felt in view of your being chosen as Dr. Clark's assistant; and we are further pleased to know of the Board's action in calling you to the full secretaryship, more especially as you have been taken from the ranks of the workers on the field. We are sure that you are thus possessed of a valuable equipment for the new service, which could not have been gained in any other way. We of this station thank you heartily for your brotherly and sympathetic letter, and promise that we will endeavor to write you with that frankness and fulness which you desire.

Praying that the Lord may grant you many years of signal usefulness in your present position, and that He may soon permit us all to see greater manifestations of His power and glory in turning the nations to Himself, I remain

Yours in Christian Fellowship,

James D. Eaton.

Rec'd Oct. 22.

99

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Nov.22,1894.

Chihuahua, Nov. 21. 1894.

Rev.Dr.James L.Barton,
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:- Enclosed please find the statistics relating to the question of "Self-Support," which ought to have gone on a long time ago. The first delay occurred through our supposing that the figures would all be gathered by the secretary of the mission, Rev.A.C.Wright. Then my blanks sent to him were lost, and these had to asked for, to make good the deficiency. It is perhaps not necessary for me to add anything to what is said in the Notes on the back of one of the sheets; but I would remark that the result of my work, in the putting together of these figures, is regarded with much dissatisfaction, on account of the uncertainty in my mind concerning the proper interpretation of some of the questions. e.g. "pastor" seems sometimes to be used in its exact sense, and at others in the general signification of preachers in charge of a congregation, which they may serve in connection with other evangelistic work, of which they make report to the mission.

I wrote briefly to you yesterday.

Sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton.

Please send the enclosed to the W.B.M.

J. L. B.
12 - 3
6

12|3

2

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Nov. 27, 1894.

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton,

My dear Dr. Barton:-

We are glad and thankful to hear, through yours of the 13th inst. that probably the sums asked for by this Mission for next year, within the limits suggested by the Prud. Com. last spring, will be granted. There are some advantages connected with being "a little one"!

In regard to the other matter, -it is a somewhat striking coincidence that while your letter was on its way to us, we were recalling, in conversation at table, some of the experiences we had with the Rev. E. P. Hammond in the summer of 1875 during the last year of my pastorate with the First Church in Portland, Oregon. For eight weeks our second service was suspended and for most of that time our Sunday School, and rarely did we retire for the night until after the clock struck twelve. The results, in additions to the churches, were almost nil.; and the pastors were unanimous in declining to continue the meetings in the rink for a day after Mr. H's departure, though he begged us to do so, and got the irresponsible crowd to vote for it on his last evening with us.

But I think circumstances were against Mr. Hammond. At the earnest solicitation of Gen. Howard, -then a member of my church, -we had invited him to come in the spring, when our churches had been holding extra meetings, and had enjoyed a blessing; but he thought he could not. Then, after we had ceased to expect him, and the season for vacations had arrived, he suddenly announced that he would be with us on a certain day. We tried to make the best of it, but in vain. A drunkard and murderer, who had been converted during the winter, was persuaded by Mr. Hammond to tell his sad story many times, and was reported by him in the religious papers in such a way as to give the impression that this was a fruit of the summer's meetings We fear he was ruined by this prominence.

But I am willing, and even desirous, to give Mr.H. opportunity to address Mexicans and Americans in this city, under certain conditions. [1] No money can be raised on the ground to meet his expenses, though perhaps we could collect enough to pay for printing, lighting etc. [Coal oil costs seventy-five cents a gallon];; nor can my wife and I promise to receive Mr. and Mrs. Hammond as our guests, for Mrs.Eaton is now working up to the limit of her strength, and has extra members in the household already, in the persons of a Mexican boy to whom we have given a home for this school year, and an aunt of mine who will remain till next summer. [2] Mr.Hammond would need to defer to the judgment of those of the station in regard to the making of any effort to commit people publicly to an acceptance of Christ. In earlier years here I did something of that myself; but the Mexicans are too polite and ready to oblige, and they already all consider themselves Christians by baptism in the Roman church. We cannot pass the bread and wine of the sacrament to any but received members of evangelical churches, because others would think themselves obliged by courtesy to receive them.

I know of no one who could properly serve as interpreter, in this city, but myself and my wife. We all understand that it would not answer to hire a worldling [as the courts here do] for such service.

Miss M.L.Hammond says that she would oppose her uncle's coming, on any errand but that of visiting Mexico as a traveller, [as she opposed his coming for work amongst the blacks in Orange Park, Fla.], though she would favor my inviting him to speak on a Sunday, if I thought best. She says that her aunt's expressions of a desire to see this country have delighted Mr.H. who finds it difficult generally to persuade her to travel, - while he seems to be unwilling on conscientious grounds, to travel anywhere, in Europe or America, [which their means allow them to do],without occupying himself in Gospel work. Miss H. is boarding with us until Miss Dunning shall return in January,and she seems to possess a large amount of common sense. Still,as I have said,I should be glad to make large expenditure of strength as interpreter,in the hope of awakening new interest in the Gospel on the part of the public,and would suggest that,if agreeable to himself,Mr.H. arrange to spend with us in this city April 7-14,-"Holy Week",when it is our custom to hold extra meetings. The late Mr. Crawford,of Hermosillo,several times expressed his desire that we might be able to designate one of our number as a sort of evangelist,to spend much of his time in visiting the widely scattered stations and out-stations,to help the missionaries and preachers in charge, in special meetings. And just now in this city there seems to be much more interest than usual manifested by the foreign residents in attending the English services,which have been sustained with few interruptions since my arrival here twelve years ago,and that without any help from the So.Methodists. We usually have only about twenty-five,except on special occasions,when I can invite people to hear a visiting minister, but last Sunday there were forty present,without any one having been invited for that day. A number of Americans are employed in the R.R.shops and in an iron foundry,on the other side of the river,a mile or so away,whom I should be very glad to have reached by special meetings,if possible.

It is too soon perhaps for considering plans for visits to the other stations of our Mission. Trusting that the fullness and frankness with which I have responded to your inquiry may help you to a wise decision regarding the matter under consideration, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton

P.S. I wrote to you on the 21st and 22nd,and to Dr.Clark on the former date.

A ~~Christmas exercise.~~

The lighting of the tree, distribution of gifts, eating of good things and joyous laughter, took place in the largest room of the girls' boarding school. But on the Sunday evening previous was held the accustomed religious festival in church. Potted plants transformed the unusally ample pulpit platform into a bower of beauty, at one side of which was placed upon an easel a copy of Knaus' Holy Family. The program which was presented by the young people of the congregation, would have befitted a first-class Sunday School concert at home. But what particularly impressed the audience, was a motion song executed by a score of children who, giving a picturesque hymn of the Nativity, made it still more vivid by pointing to the picture and beckoning us to come, and taking other attitudes, as they sang, in Spanish, ~~what might be translated~~,

Come, children all, come quickly with me,
Let us run to the manger in Bethlehem to see
The wonderful gift of the Father in heaven,,
To whom be the glory, as to us the good will.

Oh! look, in the manger of a poor little stable
A beautiful child in raiment so white;
A ray from the skies now illumines his face,
And in place of the purple, he is warmed in the hay.

See his cradle, little children, his heavenly peace,
And his mother and Joseph looking on with true love;
While a few pious shepherds are praying around,
Unnumbered bright angels are singing his praise.

You too, little children, with the shepherds may pray,
With them give God thanks, lifting up devout hands;
Uniting your voices with heavenly choirs
Sing glory and blessing to Father and Son.

Besides the wondering people in the vestibule, there were over two hundred seated within, including several dozens who had never entered our place of worship before. Much to our surprise and delight, the best paper in the city, which has offended some of the liberals by its support of the Roman Catholic bishop and clergy, in its issue of that morning had said: "By means of elegantly printed invitations there is announced for this evening a Christmas exercise at Trinity Church, whose members are preparing themselves to take active part in the solemn festival." In this courteous notice there is a marked absence of any term whereby to distinguish us unpleasantly from the other churches of the city. "Protestant" is here a word of reproach, and even "Evangelical", which we ourselves prefer to use, serves to indicate a separate class. The friendliness of the note was most gratifying and probably contributed to our outward success.

And signs of a richer result are not wanting. One man, whose opposition has kept his wife and daughter from joining us, declared emphatically at the close of the service, that he was at one with us and would hereafter improve every opportunity to meet with us.

James D. Eaton.

Chihuahua, Mexico, Dec. 27, 1894.

Rev. Dr. E. E. Strong,

My dear Sir:-

The above sketch is at your service for the department of letters from the missions. If you cannot use it, please hand it to Dr. Barton, as it will give him some information from this station. I have not meant to let so much time pass without writing to the Herald, but I see that the only thing sent you in over a year, was the report of our annual meeting.

Wishing for you a very happy New Year, I remain

Yours as ever,

James D. Eaton.

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J. L. B.
c'd 1-28 Address: 95
s'd 2-11-
Chihuahua,
Mexico.

Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

CHIHUAHUA, Jan.21,1895.

Rev.James L.Barton,Sec.
Boston ,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Your favors of Nov.22,Dec.6 and 11 were all received. And a few days ago I received a package of envelopes printed with your address, which will be useful. Yes ,the plan of notifying only the secretary of the mission of the "specials" voted,seems to me a good one. It always appeared superfluous for Dr.Clark to send me such word,in addition to the records of the votes which are always transmitted by Treas.Ward to me.

Chihuahua, Dec. 27, 1894.

My semi-annual statement of account will probably be transmitted to Mr.Ward tomorrow. From this it appears that the unexpended balances of appropriations for this mission for the past year, amount to the sum of $4,675.33 Mexican silver. The return of this large sum is due principally to our misfortunes, in losing Bro.Crawford by death, and Bro.Case [for the larger part of the year] by sickness, with the consequent inability to push the work in some parts of the field. Also, as the estimates were made on a moderate basis of an estimated premium on exchange of sixty per cent, (whereas the actual rate has averaged about ninety,) there has been a further saving to the Board of over $5,000 Mexican. On the whole, there is not much occasion for rejoicing over this showing, though we are glad not to have been burdensome to the treasury; but we hope that with returning prosperity, [which God grant may not long be delayed!] the Board will remember that we have returned this sum ,and lend an ear to our pleas for enlargement. For example, we have not a single school for boys and young men, beyond our half in the Training School in El Paso, Texas; Miss Hammond thinks the girls' school in this city greatly needs more room; Nothing is owned at the Guadalajra station, beyond the church edifice; nothing in the State of Sinaloa, in which is the station Fuerte. But it is not necessary to go into particulars at this time.

On the 27th Dec. I sent to the "Herald" a brief letter describing our experiences at Christmas, which I hope was in time for the Feb. number. We had a meeting on New Year's morning before sunrise, that was largely attended by the church members; and the special services in the main auditorium during the week of prayer attracted a number of new hearers; so that we begin the year with encouragement, notwithstanding the loss by death of our leading deacon, Sr. Casildo Sepúlveda, the middle of December. His exhibition of unfaltering faith in the closing days of his sufferings, and in the presence of Roman Catholic friends and relatives, made a deep impression upon many, which we hope will not prove evanescent.

Very sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton.

P.C.

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American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

3-19-95

CHIHUAHUA, March 12, 1895.

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Your favors of Feb. 11 & 25 were duly received. It must be about ten years since I have discharged the office of secretary of this mission, and the one who now fills that position is the Rev. A. C. Wright, El Paso, Texas.

The suggestion that we prepare the estimates for next year upon the basis of the figures sent us a year ago, is noted with gratitude, in view of the pecuniary embarrassment under which the Board is laboring.

Now I must beg your indulgence while I speak of a matter personal to myself, and with considerable fullness, as you are not acquainted with my past history. After my first year here, which had included some trying experiences, because the priests tried to get their people to boycott the first Protestant missionary in Northern Mexico, and I had no associate except my wife [the nearest missionary being a Presbyterian, at Zacatecas, 500 miles distant], and I was conducting both English and Spanish services, besides studying the language, -we went North, in the hope of saving the life of our second son who was wasting away. It was a vain attempt; but the change to my native air in Wisconsin perhaps saved my own life, for in three or four days after getting there, I was prostrated nervously, and threatened with "progressive paralysis". After this experience in 1883 it was necessary to retire to the cooler North again in '84, when my first associate, Rev. Geo. A. Dutton, had arrived. I was advised to do the same in '85, but the sudden death of Mr. D. by small-pox, early in June, decided me to hold the fort here. In '88 I was away from the field about two months, and a specialist in Chicago, Dr. Brower, learning how the summer heat depleted my system, and so weakened the power of the heart's action, ordered me to go North for "three or four months every summer", and his advice was endorsed by the family physician. I have not a copy of the letter written by me to Dr. Clark [the latter part of July?], in which it was suggested that I might as well resign my commission first as last, as to absent myself from the field for so large a part of the time. But his answer, under date of August 4, says:-"I brought your suggestions in regard to a vacation in the summer, as based on your medical adviser's opinion, to the notice of the Prudential Committee yesterday. They are very hearty in the assurance that they desire you to take such vacation as you deem best. They will leave it to your own judgment. It would be well, however, as a matter of form, that you notify us from time to time, of your wishes in this regard. You may rest assured, however, of the desire of the Committee to accord you all the time and every convenience for the maintenance of your health and strength. I feel indeed that we have reason to urge you to take such rest, etc.".

Nevertheless, the advice of physicians has been in great part disregarded by me, owing chiefly to the exigencies of the work. Three of the summers have been spent in this city superintending building operations. Only twice have I been north since '88, -once in '91,(not leaving until August, and that in the interest of our new church edifice,) and again in April '93, when I had been prostrated with fever.

Last Spring again I was feeling ill, and thought it might be best to leave the work finally; but the lifting of the debt on the church gave me renewed strength, as Dr. Clark hoped it would. For some months past I have been troubled with insomnia and consequent nervous weakness, so that I have not been able to prepare the annual lectures that were to have been given to the El Paso students this month. But there has recently been some improvement in my condition, so that I hope to continue working moderately until the annual meeting about the 1st of June. That month is usually the most trying pc.

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Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico,
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

J. L. B.
Rec'd 3-25-95
Ans'd 28

CHIHUAHUA, March 19, 1895.

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

You may have heard of the Rev. H. B. Pratt, of the So. Presb. ch'n, for years a missionary in So. America, and more recently engaged as the chief translator in preparing the "modern version" of the Spanish Bible, lately published by the Bible Soc. He is at present with his son in New Jersey, and has received proposals from various quarters looking toward engagements in the home land, but, as he hopes to aid in preparing a corected edition of the version alluded to, he wishes to keep up his knowledge of the Spanish by means of residence and labor in some country using that language, for some five or six years to come. For this reason, and because he met some of our Mission at the general gathering of missionaries in Mexico City in 1888, (and perhaps because he is distantly related to my wife,) he has written me two letters,-one having come to hand yesterday!-to learn whether there be an opportunity for him to employ himself usefully in connection with us. He is wonderfully energetic for one of his years, and takes especial delight in preaching, for which Mrs. Eaton thinks he has a marked gift, she having heard him in Mexico City five years ago. He would be willing, if thought best, to unite with a Congregational church.

Now I wish very much that it might be possible to avail ourselves of this offered help. Right in this city he could be most usefully employed. We have a commodious and attractive house of worship, and there is more readiness on the part of the people to listen, than is the case in many other parts of the republic. Yet we have no suitably educated native to put in charge, and so I myself am the acting pastor, always preaching when at home. But with the treasurer's work, book-store and colporteur business, and more native helpers at out-stations to look after than has any other one of my associates, and not very rugged health, you can easily understand that it is impossible for me to improve the opportunity in a worthy way. This occasions me a continued feeling of dissatisfaction, and often makes me feel that, if it be not practicable to station more than one man at this point, it were better for me to make way for one physically able to do a larger share of what is crying to be done.

For a year and a half past, owing first to the absence from the field of Bro. Case, andd than the death of Bro. Crawford, the missionary who was stationed in the sierra region, has been at Parral; and the oversight of that part of the field has been left to m. ~~[illegible]~~ A year ago last ~~and~~ autumn I made a tour of seventeen days through that region, and last summer I spent between five and six weeks out there, with no missionary to take my place in this city, even for a Sabbath. But of course it is very little I can do, in comparison with what ought to be done. Perhaps the Mission at its annual meeting the first of June, may decide to locate Mr. Wagner there, though he has not a great command of the language yet, and has no wife to make a home for him; or, what would seem wiser [to me] it may put him here. If not, I wish we might have that Mr. Pratt. Then I could get away frequently, and respond to some of the calls that so often come to me to visit some village or estate where the gospel may not have been announced even once, or is very imperfectly understood.

Perhaps in the present condition of the treasury it is impossible to do anything for us; and I hardly suppose the Board would feel like commissioning another ordained man just now. But would it be possible to engage Mr. P. temporarily? He has a wife and a son whom he wishes to help a little at Moody's Bible Institute, I believe. Perhaps the Bible Society would aid him to some extent; I have just written to Dr. E. W. Gilman to inquire on this point. The man would be very valuable in our El Paso school, but probably we could not afford to locate him there, if he would have to give all his time to work in the class-room. Can you encourage me to correspond further with him?

It may be fair to refer to the fact that Mrs.
eds' death leaves $500 appropriated for mis-
ionaries, unused. As ever yours,
James D. Eaton

Address:
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

James D. Eaton, Treasurer.

J. L. B.
Rec'd 3-28-95
Ans'd "

CHIHUAHUA, March 22, 1895.

Rev. Dr. James. L. Barton ,

My dear Sir:-

Allow me to supplement my letter of three days ago with the following, just received from Rev. J. G. Hall, miss'y of the So. Presb. church in this country, whom I met in 1888, and who won me at once and completely by his sweet Christian spirit, as well as his evident intelligence, culture and personal attractiveness:- "Rev. H. B. Pratt requests me to write you my opinion of his qualification for Spanish preaching. This it gives me great pleasure to do. He has recently spent nearly a whole year in the evangelistic work amongst our churches, and/his preaching has been with power, and has everywhere left a very fine impression. The services were largely attended everywhere. He pleased the educated classes, because he speaks their language so correctly, and the common people were delighted because he presented the truth so simply and clearly. Indeed, among my acquaintances, there is no other so well equipped for the Spanish as he.

He only asked me for an opinion as to his Spanish preaching. I will add, however, that I have known him for years, and hold him in the highest esteem. At times our intercourse has been very intimate, and the longer I know him, the more I esteem him. I do hope that your society can give him employment.".

The more I ponder the situation, the more I feel that we must secure the aid of such a man, probably not limiting him to any one station for the whole time. Our lamented brother, M. A. Crawford, often spoke of the desirability of having some one of the missionaries devote himself to such evangelistic work at the different stations in turn, but in my opinion Mr. Pratt would be decidedly superior for such service to any one of our number, even were it possible to spare any one of the present force from his respective station, -there not being more than one family at any station of our mission.

Earnestly desiring that the means may be found for obtaining Mr. Pratt's services, which for the next two years would cost little more than we returned to the Board last Dec. of unused appropriations, through our misfortunes in not being able to push the work, I am

Sincerely Yours,
James D. Eaton

J. L. B.
'd 5-7-95
'd 07

Guerrero, April 29. 1895.

Rev. Dr. Jas. L. Barton,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:

Your favor of the 17th inst finds me 120 miles from home with horse and buggy, visiting scattered congregations in the sierras. I thank you very much for securing the action of the Committee on the proposed vacation, and will write you further concerning the Rev. H. B. Pratt, so soon as I gain certain needed information.

Your communication preceding the last, was kept for answer at a later date when I should have obtained such information.

On the 19th inst. I wrote for the Missy Herald a letter about the "Gospel in Prison" and the "Gospel on the Screen".

The day before I wrote to the Mont-lair, N.J. Church, which supports me, and to the N.J. Association (to which belong) meeting in Baltimore, Md.

So I have not neglected to send information home, although but little as gone directly to you of late.

Yours Cordially
James D. Eaton.

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Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 5-22-95
Ans'd 7-29

Chihuahua, May 14, 1895.

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton,
Boston, Mass:

My dear Dr. Barton:-

My wife and I returned last week from an interesting and fruitful trip to the sierra region, which has been unoccupied by a missionary since Mr. Olds moved to Parral to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. Case to the U.S. two years ggo. I trust that at our near annual meeting it may seem best to return him to that field, or station Mr. Wagner there, although the native brethren are very desirous that the coming man should bring a wife with him. Beyond question, the people of the sierras are more open to the influences of the Gospel than are those of the more populous towns, and we felt that in Guerrero a miss'y family could form most pleasant and helpful social relations with most of the leading families. About the same might be said of Cusihuiriachic, where our station was formerly located, but which has almost been abandoned for several years past, on account of the burning of the large silver mill there. But we called on the new mining supt. who has 44 men now in his employ, and will soon raise the number to 75, with the expectation of so arranging matters within the next sik months, as to resume~~ng~~ pumping, and carry on operations on the old scale.

In Guerrero, we were provided with a beautiful new room in the second story of a house built by a merchant, Señor Jacinto Rico, who has always been friendly, often attending our meetings when missionaries were present, and who on this occasion took with him his sister and daughter for the first time. This room he would not accept any pay for, and besides invited us to take several meals at his house, although about two months ago, when the new bishop made his first visit to that town, and a committee waited upon Señor Rico to get rooms in the same new house for the prelate, he declined to let rooms for the purpose for any price. He himself told me that all but a very few of the men of his town are either indifferent in matters of religion, or distinctly opposed to the Roman church. I baptized seven new members in the place. Some of the brethren could make a small contribution toward the erection of a chapel; but doubtless it is useless to say anything about a grant for a building, altho in this Roman Cath. country it seems to be more important than it is in the U.S to provide places of worship elsewhere than in the rooms of private houses, if we would enjoy the respect of the public, and hope to have them understand our position. Mr. Moody expressed himself strongly on this point, when he was here at the end of march, and was deligated with our commodious and beautiful house of worship. It was a red-letter day for us, the 31st March, when Moody and Sankey took part in the Spanish service in the morning, and conducted English services, with a crowded house, afternoon and evening. They were particularly well pleased with the singing of the Mexican congregation, and got them to sing a Spanish hymn for the "American" at the other services. The following week in Mexico City, when Mr. Sankey attended a rehearsal in preparation for the meetings in that place, after hearing one or two pieces sung, he exclaimed: "That won't do, the children in Chihuahua sing better than that!" I believe I have sent a brief account to the "Independent" for the miss'y issue this month.

You will allow me to express my high appreciation of your article in the same paper for April. I have preserved it for use in California and Oregon.

Being a member of the N.J. Association, I sent a fraternal letter to the members, meeting in Baltimore April 23 and 24, but after receiving the printed program, and finding no place for the presentation of the work of the Board, I feared my labor had been in vain. However there came a most appreciative letter from the secretary who said in part: "I was very glad to hear from you, and promptly exercised that autocratic power which resides in us secretaries, to make an opening in the program for the reading of your very interesting letter. I could not ask for better attention than was given me when I read it, and I am sure that all were interested in it, both because of its contents and because of the writer." (I outlined a missionary tour, such as I was on the eve of making, when the epistle was sent.)

In regard to the securing of the Rev.H.B.Pratt as a helper in this mission,-what you say as to the possibility of undertaking "new work" causes me to lose almost all hope of getting him as a full worker on the mission field; but if he be willing, [as there seems to be considerable hope that he will], to teach in the El Paso training school, in place of the young man who now receives about $600 for this service, but whom we expect to dismiss at the end of this school year, perhaps the Board would grant enough to make his salary up to $1000 or $1050 [which latter sum Mr.Pratt has been receiving from his own board up to date], with the understanding that he would devote three or more months of the summer to preaching at different stations. This does not seem ~~any~~ an unreasonable request to make, in view of the fact that we returned about $4000 Mex. to the treasury last year, of appropriations unused, on account of death and disability of our missionaries. As our mission meets at the close of next week, nothing need be said to the Prud.Com. until you hear further from us. Mr.Pratt is about seventy years of age, but remarkably active. His wife would live with him, and he has a son studying to fit himself for the missionary work, whom he is aiding out of the $1050 salary.

Since your attention was called to the fact that I am not the secretary of the mission, another letter has come addressed to me as sec'y, dated April 23. It is the error of a clerk, I suppose. I have not acted as secretary for eight or ten years. Rev.A.C.Wright has occupied that office for the past two years, since Mr.Case went to California.

The time for the church dedication in Portland, Ore., is now fixed for July 14, so that I plan to leave home after the third Sunday in June, and return about first of Aug.

Sincerely Yours,

James D. Eaton.

dress:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Rec'd. 6.24.95
Ans'd 7-29

CHIHUAHUA, June 19,1895.

Rev.Dr.James L.Barton,

Boston,

My dear Dr.Barton:-

Enclosed you will find the Estimates for 1896,as approved by the Mission at its late meeting in El Paso. The sheet of "Notes and Explanations" will throw all needed light,I think. Of course we met with some embarrassment in classifying according to the new schedules,especialy in allowing for rents of residences to be included in salaries. The missionaries were sorry to have the figures raised nine per cent,although our salaries are considerably lower than those paid by the No. and So.Methodist,Baptist and Presb. Boards,as has before been reported to the Rooms.

Also I send account of the grand S.S.Convention in San Luis Potosí, to which our Mission sent one delegate;but we were also represented by my wife,Mr.and Mrs.Howland and Miss White,as the occasion was felt to be one of great importance. It was very gratifying to have the motion,adopting our paper as the "C.E." official organ,seconded "with all my heart" by the editor of the Presb'n paper,"El Faro". Mrs.Eaton was elected secretary of the United Society,as she introduced "C.E." into the country,and is the editor of the C.E. department of the paper. Our company asked me to write for the "Herald",and Bro.Howland will send to the "Independent".

Tomorrow we leave for Cal"a,and my address until July 8th,will be in care of Oscar F.Sites,No.942 Oakland,Cal,and for two weeks thereafter at Portland,Oregon. Also letters sent here will be forwarded

Probably soon after writing me May 18,[enclosing the Letter from Miss. Boards] you received mine of the 14th ult. Our native church in this city sent $125 Mex. to Mr.Wiggin on May 24th,which he has acknowledeged.

Very truly yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 8-21-95
Ans'd 8-21

CHIHUAHUA, Aug.15,1895.

Rev.Dr.James L.Barton,

Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Your kind letter of July 29-31 reached me a few days after my return to this city,but it has been simply impossible to reply sooner,owing to the accumulated matters of business requiring immediate attention.

In regard to Bro.Houlding,I see no reason to change my vote of some years ago favoring his appointment to this mission. Possibly he may not be as apt as some for managing business details;though he has had experience in fruit raising in California,has served several churches,and he sent me a copy of a letter which he wrote to Se.Cobb making his plea for aid in the erection of a house of worship in El Paso which seemed to me to be a masterly presentation of of practical arguments in support of his petition. But his wife seems to me to have a good share of common sense,along with spirituality of character. Bro.Houlding is a man of marked spirituality,in union with excellent scholarship,and my feeling is that he will bring with him a valued accession to our forces in just this way. For one,I have to do so much of "serving of tables," that it is quite refreshing to be brought into contact with a person like Mr.Houlding,as I was for an entire week at the time of our late annual mission meeting in El Paso,he taking me for his guest. I imagine that the heat of summer in Hermosillo station would oblige him,as perhaps it ought to do in the case of any other missionary family,to retire to a cooler region, as Nogales on the border,for a time each year. The Crawfords only stayed there for one summer,I believe.

Fraternally Yours,
James D. Eaton.

My excursion to Portland, Ore. was carried out as planned, occupying barely six weeks of time. I spoke on every Sunday (even including the one at sea,) and from one to five times on each of them, counting addresses before C.E. societies; also, a few times during the week, and several times gave illustrated lectures with the stereopticon, presenting a number of slides which I had made to order by T.H.McAllister. The Monday Club in San Francisco extended my time from the usual twenty minutes to forty-five, and then occupied fifteen or twenty more in asking me questions. Reporters were present from the "Chronicle", "Call" and "Examiner", taking full notes, but afterwards at my request, and by unanimous vote of the members, they were advised to abbreviate, and omit all report of criticisms on the Mexican gov't. and people. This was fortunate for me, since the report of the "Chronicle" was reprinted in a local paper here before my return home. Perhaps you saw the brief item in "The Advance" to the effect that I had "been lecturing in the churches of San Francisco and vicinity, and addressed the Monday Club July 8, exciting much interest".

It was wonderfully refreshing to revisit the scene of my first pastorate as well as of my marriage [by Dr.Stone in the First Church, San F.], and my wedding journey, and to find after over nineteen years had elapsed, about sixty of the former members still there, and remembering us so kindly. It was grateful indeed to the spirit to have one gentleman, now county judge, say to me at parting: "I have prayed for you, Mr.Eaton, every day since you left". He is one of those who have not hesitated to write me, in past years, that they tho't I was throwing away many opportunities for wider usefulness by spending my life in Mexican mission work. But I trust that my lectures have convinced him and others that my sphere here is not so narrow as they had supposed!

Last week the governor's mother-in-law attended our women's meeting, on Mrs. Eaton's special invitation; and at our prayer-meeting last night we had with us for the first time a colonel and his wife, and the best pianist in the city. We pray that these cheering events may be but an earnest of what God has in store for us.

Faithfully yours,
James D. Eaton.

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Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

C. H. D.
Rec'd 12-3-95
Ans'd

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, Nov.23,1895.

Rev.Dr.C.H.Danials,
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Daniels:-

The kind note of the 30th Oct.,giving us some of your impressions of the late annual meeting,was highly appreciated by us all here, and I regret not having been able to acknowledge its receipt before getting your letter of inquiry in regard to the disposition of our forces. It seems as if I had never had quite so much to do before, in the same length of time. In addition to my regular duties,which do not diminish with the passage of time,[acting pastor here of Mexican and American congregations, larger circulation of books and periodicals than ever before, attending to treasurer's duties, and visiting out-stations],I have helped Mr.and Mrs.Wagner, and Mr.Case and Miss Burris to their new fields,-so that we had guests in the house for over three weeks without a break,- and am now trying to make time for preparing some lectures for giving next month to our students in El Paso. But I forbear to extend the catalog.

At our annual meeting,the first of June last,it was unanimously voted, [as should have been reported to Boston, by the secretary of the mission,Mr. Case,] to locate the Wagners in the sierra field,which had been largely abandoned since Mr.Case was obliged to leave Parral,and Mr.Olds was transferred to the latter point. And as Cusituiriachic has not recovered yet from its heavy disaster,(though there is prospect of the mining company's doing something after this year closes,)it was thouht best for them [the Wagners] to locate for the present at least in Guerrero,which is nearer than Cusi. to the center of our little congregations out there. The Wagners were married in El Paso in Sept.,and after being detained in my house by rains,and heavy roads,till Oct.

4th,finally got away,and have set up house-keeping,-feeling encouraged at the prospect. Mrs.Wagner is making friends fast through her starting of a class in English,and her last letter reported thirty boys in attendance, besides girls,and happy parents looking on.

At the same annual meeting, we had with us Señor Florentino Piña,a colporteur,who had made several successful trips to Batopilas,a mining town in the southwestern part of this State,where the leading man is Ex-Gov.Alexander R. Shepherd,["Boss" Shepherd,of Washington fame],and who reported great interest in the Gospel on the part of a number of the citizens,and the offer of some to support teachers for a boys' and a girls' school. We decided to send there for three summer months, one of the best young men of our training school. He met with excellent success,forming provisionally a little church, and organizing a C.E.society. He also confirmed the report of a demand for a school in the town,and for another on a private estate near by.

Meanwhile, in Minas Prietas,where Miss Burris was teaching before,the mining company needed the building we had occupied,for its own use; there was not much present encouragement in Hermosillo; where should she go? Mr. Howland wrote frankly that it would not be wise to locate her in Guadalajara with Miss Haskins; Mr.Bissell had so expressed himself on a previous occasion when we were all together,that no one thought of proposing to him to take her, and it was doubtful, at any rate, if she would be able to endure the heat there; we should have welcomed her here,but it would seem selfish to the others to occcupy three lady teachers at this point at present,when others are not supplied. Miss Burris had had nothing to do since the middle of May last,and was likely to continue in the same condition indefinitely. She was written to, and expressed a readiness to go to Batopilas,and it was so voted.

On the 9th Sept. Messrs.Olds and Wagner being in this city,after consultation with the other members of the mission at this station,a joint telegram was sent to Mr.Case,in Escondido,California,asking him whether he would be willing to accompany Miss Burris to Batopilas for a few months, leaving a native preacher to supply the church in Hermosillo meanwhile. He replied the same day, expressing great readiness to do so. Another circular letter was sent the rounds of the stations, and the plan was appproved, of having him go to Batopilas until next annual meeting, which will be near the first of April next. No Am. missionary had ever yet been there, owing to the distance and difficulties of the journey; and it was felt to be of very great importance that one of our number should examine the field, and that he should take sufficient time to do this thoroughly. As Mr. Case had expected to return to Mexico alone, for only a fraction of a year more, this seemed just the arrangement to make. A native helper was sent from this State to meet Mr. Case in Nogales, and together they went to Hermosillo to arrange matters for the missionary's absence. It was hoped that the income from the school would pay whatever share of the expenses we might not be able to meet out of the limited appropriation for touring expenses.

The results of the move so far have made us all happy. Our missionaries went in company with the large armed band, that "conduct" the silver bars to this city each month, and arrived in safety, and well. Callers came to see them the first evening, fifty natives were at the first prayer-meeting, a hundred were seated at the first Sunday services, besides many curious spectators on their feet; many more books were ordered of me; a school has been started by Miss Burris, which already has twenty paying pupils, whose fees amount to $40 Mexican per month; and $100 has been subscribed for a small organ, which I have already ordered from Chicago. Mr. Case is running over with happiness and thankfulness, and reports himself as in better health than before. But I will not repeat to you more from his letters to me, because by this time you have most likely heard directly from him.

While I am on this subject, I should like to ask for authorization to expend such part of the appropriation for native school teacher [or that for boarding school,if thought better,] in Hermosillo,for the current year,as may prove necessary for meeting the expense incurred in transporting the *lady* missionary to her present location. As there have been expenses in getting the school started,paying for the making of benches etc.,it may not be possible for us to pay for Miss B's transportaion,in addition to that of Mr.Case, without this help. It seems fair to ask this,which was proposed in our conference here,as a resort. I think the Woman's Board would favor it.

Now as regards Miss Prescott in Parral.- Mrs.Eaton thinks it is an illustration of the inexpediency of disfranchizing the wives of missionaries in the Mission to Mexico,[and I heartily agree with her],that at our last annual meeting we left Mr.Olds and Miss Prescott in Parral,without making provision for any exigency that might arise later. The need had been so happily met by sending Miss Wright there,that I suppose we rested in serene confidence that a kind Providence,working through the W.B.M.I.,or some other agency, would help us safely though another year! If Miss Wright returns to the U.S.,I do not know what will be best. The suggestion has been made that the school in Parral might be continued,in a smaller way,under a native teacher, and that Miss Prescott be engaged elsewhere. But doubtless Mr.Olds would feel disappointed at this, and he would hope that arrangements might be made for keeping her where she is now. I wish we might get more light on this problem at our annual meeting. I think no one would favor putting *two* ordained men in Parral,as Olds and Wagner.

Our next mission meeting will be held here. Who will come from Boston? We all recall with greatest pleasure your visit here,and join you in the wish that it may be repeated. Mrs.Eaton wishes to be remembered especially to you.

This is rather a long letter to inflict upon you; but I thought that you would probably not receive from any one else so comprehensive a review of the proceedings had,as no other one perhaps was in possession quite so fully of the facts in the case.

Sincerely Yours
James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 2-6-96
Ans'd 11

CHIHUAHUA, Jan. 30, 1896.

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

We of this station received on New Year's morning, by means of a letter from Dr. Daniels, the startling intelligence of a ten per cent reduction in the salaries of married missionaries, and of the still more painful cut in the appropriation for general work. We cannot bring ourselves to believe that the churches will allow such an interpretation to be put upon the action at Brooklyn. A very few minutes' conversation with the members of the Prud. Com. would suffice to convince them that our salaries were already placed by ourselves at a very low figure, when the cost of living is taken into account. Whereas our units of comparison, (on the northern field, where expenses are greater than in Guadalajara,) are: for a single man, $500, for a single woman, the same,, for a married couple, $1,000; the Methodists, both North and South, give a couple $1,200, a single woman $750; the Presbyterians give a single woman $750, an single man $1,000, a married couple $1,500; and the Baptists about the same. Allowances for children are also higher with all.

When Miss White came from Japan to Mexico, she was astounded to learn how much less salary she would receive. The same state of mind was produced in Miss Hammond, when she compared her condition with what it was under the Presb. Board, in both Central America and Mexico. As the lamented Dr. Clark was here in 1886, and later secured a price list of provisions and drygoods, he was acquainted with the situation. The fact of the matter is, that I myself had more to do with the fixing of salaries, some years ago, than any other member of the mission; and as I was a pastor in the U.S. for ten years before entering upon this work, and knew how hard it was to collect funds for the treasury, I had a vivid sense of the importance of saving those hardly gathered funds. Not only are our salaries already low, but we never allowed ourselves the extras that obtain in some other missions. Miss White, for example, was surprised to learn that she was expected to provide her own books for the study of the language.

Also, while I rejoice that the ladies at home are able to keep the allowances of their own unmarried missionaries at the same figure as last year, it seems a very peculiar arrangement, that reduces salaries where such a cut will work the greatest hardship.- For example, while at this station, on the married side of the house, our one servant and the washing done outside cost over thirty dollars Mexican per month, at a moderate estimate of the servant's board, the two lady teachers, having a separate table, receive help from one of the boarding school girls, who eats with the other pupils, and pay out monthly for the same object five or six dollars. Last year we had an allowance of $50 more, for the one child with us, four years old, (which would not pay her board, to say nothing of her clothing and shoes,) but this year we are promised for our entire family here $55 less than those ladies will have. Further, I am expected to make contributions, as the head of a family, which are never asked of single ladies. This last year the mayor of the city sent me a polite note, enclosing six dollars' worth of tickets to a performance for raising funds to celebrate their independance day. I returned the tickets but enclosed my check for the amount. So in a previous year I helped the "American" colony to raise funds for the Fourth of July.

Mr. Case wrote me on the 8th inst: "The reduction in salaries is considerable, and in the case of this mission at least, falls where it is least able to be borne. Miss Burris voluntarily proposes an averaging of the matter". Mr. Howland wrote on the 13th: "Why are Mrs. Eaton and Mrs. Howland left out, of whom some are so fond of saying, that they are their missionaries? xxx "Why are the only ones who can save money, not cut, while the others are? Well, the salary matter can be handled, but the rest--how can it be done? How can rents, for example, be cut, when there are specific contracts? I have just bought paper for the whole year for "El Testigo", and have already made expenditures that make much of a cut out of the question" etc, etc.

After Woman's Work and Salaries are cared for, there are only small items left, except two, the Training School [$2,335], and Native Helpers [$2,305]. But the total reduction, leaving out salaries of missionaries, is nearly $1,500. Shall we close the school,? or dismiss most of our helpers,? whose exceedingly small salaries, far below what the other demominations are giving, and much less than we shall have to give, as soon as we can get better qualified men cannot be reduced?

During the past two years our mission has seemed to be peculiarly unfortunate, in the death of Mr. Crawford, & Mrs. Olds and the absence from the field, for most of the time, of Mr. Case, and leaving of Miss White -these events causing so much of a suspension of work in some parts of the field, as to result in the return to the Board's treasury, each of those years, of a large balance of unexpende appropriations.

Eight days ago I sent to Mr. Wiggin my semi-annual statement of account, to which I beg to refer you, which shows that we reported back to the Board for the year 1896, a total of $2,759.72 gold, in unexpended appropriations. Now must we be made still further to suffer? for lack of a vern small sum, (which nevertheless is large for for this small-sized mission), or will you save us from disheartening and disastrous reduction, by granting to us a little more than one-half of what we saved to the Board last year? I believe you will decide to do the latter,, and so save us from putting on sackcloth and ashes at our annual meeting, about two months hence. If you will do that, then as Mr. Howland says, the salary matter can be handled, in some way, although it deprive us of the Christian joy of helping needy objects from our own pockets.

It is very painful to me that this letter should have to be occupied so entirely with the subject of funds; and if the Board would consent, I should not hestitate to resign my commission, make my own living, and devote what time might be spared,to the work here to which we have given our lives. Indeed,for several years past,at intervals,has that possibility presented itself to our imaginations, as an alluring prospect for two xxxxx persons who would be glad to be able to say to the native brethren;"These hands minister to our own necessities,and you can do the same", and to those without,both natives and foreigners,who think we are here "for the money there is in it", "there is for us no worldly advantage in the service we render". But we have been held back from such a step, principally by the thought of the loved Board that first sent us here,and of the many Christian friends,both east and west,who could not understand the reasons for such xxxxxx action, and of the pained feelings and possible misunderstandings that might arise.

I have felt moved to open my heart to you on this subject,though it was never done before to any representative of the Board,-perhaps because I felt that a former missionary would be better able to understand me, than would one who had never known the special perplexities and trials of the foreign worker.

Yesterday I forwarded to Dr.Strong direct,in the hope of an earlier publication in the "Herald",an account of the precious revival meetings that have just closed here,and that have left us with much special work to do. I hope you will take time to read it,if it be still in his hands.

We were hoping that the improved health of Mr.and Mrs.Case might permit of their continuance in the work;but a letter today received from Mr.C. shows that he expects to return to the U.S. What shall we do for that most delightful,growing work in Batopilas,which promises to be self-supporting,after it shall have benn fostered by a missionary for a year or so, but which would be seriously set back,if left now,when we have no well qualified native to put in charge? And what shall be done for Hermosillo,and the whole State of Sonora,where we have but a sole worker now,a Mexican? The So.Meth.preacher in Guaymas,the port on the gulf of Cal.,wrote me,on the 8th inst,of a visit to that capital city, and added: "Could you not take better care of that field? In such a center there is need of activity and intelligence for the furtherance of the work, especially as I could see that there is sympathy for the Gospel in that city. I wish that you would xxx look well after the place, for thus the unbelieving masses will see that the Gospel is alive and working in all parts, laboring for the salvation of souls".

It may be said, Let Mr. and Mrs. Wagner go to one of those points. But they just started in where they are, in October last, and are greatly interested in the people, and have many points to visit. And besides it is probable that the state of health of Mrs. W. would not suffer her to live in the hot climate~~s~~ of Hermosillo and Batopilas. At the beginning, before Mrs. Wagner was married, Mr. W. expressed his satisfaction that the mission had assigned him to the cool climate of Guerrero, as he should hardly dare to take the lady to the low level of Hermosillo.

In any case, it seems clear that no time is to be lost in obtaining a substitute for Mr. Case. Even were a new man to come at once, he could not do the work in either Batopilas or Hermosillo for a year to come. Possibly if the new man were actually on the ground, Mr. Case might be persuaded to continue for a year more, without his family, the members of which you probably know are in California.

I beg pardon for inflicting upon you so lengthy an epistle, but the urgency of the circumstances seemed to warrant it.

We are very glad to know of your safe return to the home land, and to the work which so greatly needs you, and we hope that the issue will show that your mission to Japan has been abundantly fruitful.

Most cordially yours,

James D. Eaton

P.S. In another envelope I send samples of invitation and handbills used for the Morales meetings, which I forgot to enclose for Dr. Strong.

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J. L. B.
Rec'd 3-18-96
Ans'd 4-13

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, March 12,1896.

Rev.Dr.James L.Barton,
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Your letter of the 11th ult. dashed to the ground the last hope I had for avoiding the taking of extreme measures at our nearing annual meeting,-which begins on Thursday the 23rd April. It is plain that some radical step is unavoidable; such as closing the training school in El Paso, [which nevertheless would save only one-half what the total expenditure has ordinarily been,and leave the mission to meet the entire support of the present director,Mr.Wright], or dismissing about all of the native helpers, or else carrying on these two lines of work at such a "poor dying rate",as to produce a more painful effect than immediate amputation of one of these members of the mission. With my present light,I should vote to close the school,and release Mr.Wright for service in the State of Sonora,or somewhere else. I shall not attempt now to present the arguments for this.

At the meeting of the mission last year,I informed the brethren that my wife and I were thinking of building a house for our residence on the lot next to the church,(which we own,)and asked them whether they saw any objection to the plan. The informal reply was,for substance,"No,not if building a residence would not hinder your going elsewhere,should the mission so desire". I said that the property would be so good a one,that there would be no difficulty in renting it to foreign tenants,if we had to leave it.

Some eleven years ago there was left a small legacy of one thousand dollars to my wife,by her uncle,the late A.S.Barnes of New York, and it has been drawing compound interest since,at ten per cent per annum,.with the exception of a brief period when it was lent without interest to avoid all charges of that sort upon the memorial church in this city, before the building was entirely paid for. Six years ago, or a little more, we left our separate, rented, residence in this city, and came to occupy this mission property to aid in the establishment of a girls' boarding school, as Miss Keyes did not feel able herself to care for any boarders. We expected to remain about six months and then return to the house which stood empty waiting for us; but my wife became so deeply involved, that we never got away, and that separate residence was disposed of, and the advanced rent that we suceeded in getting refunded, was used, with private funds of our own, in making necessary additions to this property. We spent a little over $300 gold of our money.

Three years ago, last winter, at our annual meeting in Guadalajara, we asked the mission to endorse our application to the board for $2,500 to build a residence for us, as we could not longer live in such close union with the girls' school. [We had been obliged on this account to send our son Howard to the U.S. earlier than would otherwise have been necessary, and our little daughter was too much with the Mexican children]. This would also afford the needed extra room for the school. The mission sent a committee of three, Bissell, Crawford and Olds, who would have to pass this way, to examine the property and make recommendations. They acknowledged the reasonableness of our request for a separate residence, but advised spending $1,500 [?] in making changes in these premises, so as to cut us off from daily contact with teachers and pupils, and yet give the school a little more room by crowding in another room or two. We should have been well treated by this arrangement, but in justice to the interests of the school we did not consent to use the sum named for the purposes specified. We accepted only $200 to make some most necessary changes, which would separate the girls almost entirely, while still leaving the lady teachers the use of our court and street door. For most of the time since, some of the boarders have had to sleep two together in single beds, and there is pressing need of at least one more recitation ~~rm~~ room.

I intended also to say that Mr.Crawford,at the committee meeting in my office alluding to the building of the new church,largely through gifts of personal friends,remarked,with a twinkle in his eye,that he did "not doubt that Mr. Eaton would,within a few years,be able to present to the Board a missionary residence!"

Last year,after consulting with relatives on both sides of the house, and being cordially advised to build,notably by my wife's father,Julius H. Pratt,(who was for about fifteen years president of the board of trustees of Dr.Bradford's church in Montclair,and who was not, in the first years, reconciled to our remaining in Mexico,) we decided to use our little patrimony in that way,building as simply and inexpensively as possible; and the plans have been drawn by the same architects as those who planned the church,-Patton & Fisher,of Chicago. The foundation is now going in,and it is expected that the house will be ready for occupancy by next September.

After that we could give up our complete suite of roms here, for the uses of the boarding school,and, with some changes,the whole property would become a most convenient plant for the purpose. Our private funds will not be quite enough to pay for the house, so that we should be glad if, after the treasury is relieved,that sum of $600 might be returned to us,perhaps by the Woman's Board,if the property shall be used for education of girls. We could hardly expect any such help under a year from this time,I suppose.

We do not feel yet like fulfilling Bro.Crawford's prophecy! but if we are permitted to occupy the residence ourselves,we shall not ask the board for any allowance for rent,and our salary will be reduced by so much.

At the approaching annual meeting I expect to make a similar statement to my associates,that they may recommend what to do with the vacated residence in the mission compound. Have you any suggestion to make in this connection?

Sincerely Yours,
James D. Eaton.

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 5-11-96
Ans'd 6-10

CHIHUAHUA, May 4,1896.

Rev.Dr.James L.Barton,
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Today I have written you a letter in regard to the situation at Batopilas,which must go first to Mr.Wright,the other member of the committee,for his signature if he approves,before being forwarded to Boston. But I wish to add a few words on my personal responsibility,especially as you kindly invited an expression of my "judgment".

As foreshadowed in my last letter to you,I favored,under the present financial stress,the suspending of our training school for one year,especially as the Education Society expects to withdraw from partnership with us, thus setting Mr.Wright free to undertake either evangelistic work in Sonora,or the combined educational and evangelistic work in Batopilas. Personally I inclined to have him occupy the former field,while Mr.Bissell should take the latter,as when he Mr. B. first enlisted under the American Board,he expected to engage in educational work,but on the eve of his departure for Mexico was ordained to the ministry,upon Dr.Clark's suggestion. Mr.Bissell's present location is also nearer to B. than is that of any other one. [We are all agreed in thinking that Mr.Wagner is not suited to the need in B.,since he spoke only "Penn'a Dutch" until he was seventeen years of age,and has not an accurate knowledge of the English language,which the people of Batopilas desire especially to have taught.]

When the motion was made, to continue the training school another year upon the full apropriation,from the present date,from the American Board, [which of course gives the school but half of what it has been receiving], Mr.Wright was presiding,and there were six to vote. Of these,three were in favor of the motion,Messrs.Bissell,Howland

and Olds, and three against, Messrs. Case, Eaton and Wagner. But of these three, two refrained from voting, Mr. Case because he felt a delicacy about saying where others should labor after he had left the mission, and Mr. Wagner probably because he felt diffident as a new-comer, about helping to decide so important a question.

Under the arrangement which was ordered, the training school will be deprived of one of the two Mexican teachers, as well as of the services of the instructor in carpentering; and Mr. Wright will be kept there with only six or eight pupils in the whole school. At the same time, three of our few native helpers, (men of mature Christian experience and irreproachable character, though lacking in scholastic training,) are cut off wholly. The two who were here, to listen to the announcements, felt that the blow was very severe, and I had to devote considerable time after the missionary brethren had gone, to explanations and assurances of fraternal sympathy. To some of us it would have seemed much wiser to retain these, and to cease educating more youths for the ministry, until we could see our way clear to occupy in the field the men whom we already have.

Also, some of us are not sure that an American city is the best place in which to educate workers for old Mexico. We established the school on the border at first, in Ciudad Juarez, for the sake of partnership with the New West Ed. Soc. and the Home Missionary Society. Then we moved across the Rio Grande, in order to save annoyance and expense in the custom house, and to secure the new building. But now that the Education Society withdraws, and full partnership with the Home Miss. Soc. was never obtained, we might well consider anew where the school would best be located, with soledy the foreign work in mind. --- While by inheritance and conviction I am a Congal'st, at such a time as this I can see there would be an advantage in having some one person to act as superintendent of the mission, in conjunction with the Prud. Committee!

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton

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Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 5-11-96
Ans'd 6-10

CHIHUAHUA, May 6, 1896

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:- In order that you may understand my letter of two days ago, it seems necessary for me to copy what was written on the same date ~~and~~ sent to Mr. Wright for his signature, if he approved, to be forwarded to you.---"We were made very glad and grateful by the news that a friend had been found willing to contribute the sum of $550 the coming year toward the support of a missionary in the new place. But we were desirous of putting the work there upon a basis of self-support, if possible, from the very beginning. It looked as if a single man might be sustained upon the amount pledged upon the ground, while, if a married couple should go there, we hoped that the un-named friend might still feel disposed to contribute the $550 to meet the extra expense. It was therefore voted "that the chairman and treasurer, -Messrs. Wright and Eaton,- in consultation with Mr. Case, and others who are well informed as to the details of the situation, endeavor to supply the call from Batopilas for preachers and teachers, on the basis of self-support, without calling on the mission for workers, or funds for salaries".

It was also decided to send there, as native teacher and preacher, Señor José M. Ibañez, now located in Ciudad Juarez, and for some time past assistant in the training school; and the committee was expected to open correspondence at once with suggested candidates for the position of chief responsibility.

On the 1st of May, however, there arrived in this city the two leading stock-holders of the mining company, -Ex-Gov. Alex-R. Shepherd, coming from New York, and L. H. Stevens from Batopilas, the latter being the one who had coöperated most actively with Mr. Case in forming the recent plans. At the first interview with these gentlemen, Mr. Eaton learned that it would not be satis-

Jas. D. Eaton

factory to them, nor to the other subscribers to the fund, to have a new man sent there, unacquainted as yet with the language and people. Rather than have that done, with the risk of an inexperienced man's saying or doing unwise things 'which might undo much of the excellent work accomplished by Mr.Case,' they would prefer our attempting nothing for a year to come.

Mr.Stevens, and the company's physician, Dr.Wagner, who also is here, favored strongly the placing of Mr.Bissell there for a year, if his services could be secured, [since their first inquiry, in regard to the possibility of obtaining Mr.Wright, was met by the assurance that there was no hope from that quarter]. They made the acquaintance of Mr.Bissell during the week he spent there in January last. Mr.Stevens says that Sept. or Oct. next would be early enough for opening the boys' school, which gives us considerable time for arranging matters still by correspondence. Mr.Bissell at our annual meeting expressed readiness to make another visit to Batopilas during the coming year, and remarked that the people in his vicinity 'looked up to Batopilas as a town of importance.'

The undersigned are, of course, not authorized to speak for the other members of the mission who have gone to their homes; but we venture to ask the question, whether the Board may not consider it advisable to recommend that Mr. Bissell be requested to occupy B. for a year, with the understanding that a native helper be sent to Fuerte to hold that point as best he may.

We would also urge the early appointment of an ordained man to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr.Case, in view of the fact that the State of Sonora, [capital, Hermosillo], continues to be unsupplied."

Now Mr.Wright thinks that in the latter part of the above letter we as a committee go beyond our instructions, and says: "I would prefer to report to th Mission, and secure from it an opinion on the suggestion before writing to Boston with this suggestion." I have therefore proposed to him today, that he send to you only the first three paragraphs of the above, [up to where I have made a mark], and that he substitute for what follows, an expression of his preference, in order not to keep you longer waiting. I do not know whether he will require further modification

Yours sincerely

James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 5-12-96
Ans'd 6-10

CHIHUAHUA, May 7, 1896.

Rev. Dr. Barton,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Your welcome letter of the 29th April, anent Batopilas and the efforts to secure a new missionary, has poured sunshine into our home. Wife and I have had a great "jollification" as the result of its perusal. Indeed, she clapped her hands so loudly over some of the points you made, that I expostulated, fearing that the noise would bring over to our side of the house some of the lady teachers for an investigation, before we had had a chance to finish the reading. But I confessed to her that I felt like turning Methodist and shouting "Hallelujah!" and all the other ejaculatory phaases supposed to suit the circumstances. Nothing could be better than the turn that affairs have taken, especially as the Committee in Boston has acted before it heard anything from us missionaries as individuals. I have strong hopes now that the Mission will see its way clear to accept cordially the action of the Board, and second it by designating some one of the missionaries now on the ground to supply Batopilas for a year; though of course it will not be easy to arrange all the details, since all have scattered to their homes. Right here let me say with emphasis, what has been intimated in my late letterr to you, of the 4th and 6th of May, that I wrote at those times only as an individual, with the frankness which you had previously invited, but not wishing nor expecting that my words should have any more weight than there might be in the "reason of them". And I hope that in your letters to other members of the mission, you will not have occasion to refer to anything I may have written to Boston bearing on the question of the location of my associates.

As to the choice of one to take up this combined educational and evan-

Chihuahua, May 6, '96.

gelistic work in B.,I have already indicated the reasons for suggesting that either Mr.Wright or Mr.Bissell be the one, and given the reason for considering Mr.Wagner out of the question. Three remain;Howland,Olds and myself. I should not suppose that any one would seriously propose moving Bro.Howland, our sole man in the great State of Jalisco,and the editor and publisher of our paper, which could not be published at present in B. Mr.Olds has just begun the construction of his "Memorial church" in Parral,and could not abandon this work now without serious loss. The mission at its last meeting instructed the secretary to cast their ballot for me as treasurer;and some of the brethren,as Mr.Wright,have remarked that they could not do the work,if I would not. Only Wright and Howland are located where there are sufficient banking facilities for doing this work;and Howland is rather far to one side, besides having anough to do with "El Testigo". Nor have I ever been engaged in educational work. Still,Mrs.Eaton and I would not refuse to go to B.,if the mission so ordered.

The new man might come to Mexico before his marriage,as was done by the deceased Mr.Dutton,Mr.Olds and Mr.Wagner,if it seemed advisable, but we regard it as exceedingly important,in this country of vicious priests and many corrupt and evil-minded persons,that the missionary should have his wife before long. Mr.Olds is now considerably handicapped by the decease of his wife,beyond the loss of her valuable cooperation; and we were much pained to learn from Bro.Bissell that unkind remarks had been made in Batopilas already in regard to the relations of Mr.Case and Miss Burris,who are above suspicion. I hope Mr.Case knows nothing of it. But he urged most strongly that Miss Burris be not left there without a missionary family,or at least a lady associate By the way,as I have written to Mr.Swett,that lady was commissioned as Miss Burrows;but when she found that the natives would pronounce her name like the plural of burro,which means donkey, she adopted the original spelling of her name,which has been adhered to all these years indeed by some of her own family. It would be well, to avoid confusion, to have the spelling changed also in the official lists of the Board's missionaries.

It is not easy to say whose place the new man could supply, even in part; for of course he could not take the training school, if it be thought best to continue that; and he could not do Mr. Bissell's touring work, which is his chief employment; nor would it be best to send him to so extremely isolated a point. The ideal way would of course be to locate him at some station in company with an older missionary, to study the language and methods of work. But it occurs to me that it would not be wholly unsuitable to place him in Hermosillo, if he must occupy a station alone, since his presence would give cheer to the native brethren, and if he be gifted with a musical voice, and still further with ability to play an organ, he could help greatly in the meetings. And we have appointed one of the best two in the training school, Señor Ignacio Lopez, who understands some English, and American ways, to go to Hermosillo for the coming year. The two men could work together nicely. At present there is a most excellent Christian man, a Baptist, resident in Hermosillo, who aided Bro. Crawford, helped me in the transfer of property two years ago, and since last Oct. when Mr. Case left there, has aided me in keeping oversight of the native helper in that place. Two years ago a letter of acknowledgment was sent him by the Board, in view of his valuable services. If he continues, it would be help- for the new missionary, as there are few foreign residents in the city, and they not interested in Christian work.

The mission requested Mr. Bissell to spend a few weeks in Sonora during the coming year, and expressed the hope that I myself might be able to do the same, taking with me, if possible, my wife to work in the families. Mr. Wright said he would let me off from my annual course of lectures at El Paso, if necessary to this end; and I was hoping to go there for the month of November next, leaving Mr. Bissell to make his visit in the Spring. I could go in Oct. to introduce the new man, if thought best. But it may be premature to speak now of these details. I only wished to throw all the light possible upon the problem as it will come before you. Of course I cannot know what my associat-

may prefer. Your letter is forwarded to El Paso by this mail.
In good hope, Yours cordially,
James D. Eaton

C. H. D.
Rec'd 5-28-96
Ans'd

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, May 22, 1896.

Rev.Dr.C.H.Daniels,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr.Daniels:-

Rev.O. C.Olds, of Parral, has forwarded to me your note addressed to him under date of the 11th inst, in regard to certain items in the estimates for mission needs this year, sent on to the Committee by myself. The amount in question is very small; and as the schedule forwarded to Boston is not before me, I cannot put my finger on the clerical error, if there were such. I only can repeat here what should have gone to you. Under the head of Work for Women, there was put down, for Guadalajara station, in Mexican money, for Repairs, $12.50; for Incidentals, $17.50; total $30.00, which reduced to gold at the rate we have taken for the last two years, to favor the Board as much as possible, viz. seventy-five per cent premium, would amount to the $17.14, -exactly the sum mentioned in the correspondence with Mr.Olds.

This sum may have been put down to the account of Parral, by an error. But the items of the same class for Parral were: Repairs $25.00; Incidentals $12.50; total, $37.50 Mexican, which divided by 1.75, gives $21.43 gold.

When Mr.Olds was here at our annual meeting, he said that surprise had been expressed in Boston, or Chicago, at the call for a sum for repairs where the Board owns no property. That is not strange for persons who have not lived in Mexico. The property owner in this country who keeps his houses in repair for tenants, is a rare bird indeed. As Bro.Howland stated in our annual meeting last year, he H. has to replace glass or bricks, or stop leaks, in his residence, and the girls' school building, just the same as if the Board owned the buildings. One-half was charged to the W.B.M., and one-half to the Am. Bd, of each item. A little over one-half might well have been charged to the W.B.M.

Sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 7-15-96
Ans'd 27
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CHIHUAHUA, July 9,1896.

Rev.Dr.James L.Barton,
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Your favor of June 10th,in repdy to my letters of the 4th,8th and 7th May,was received in due course of mail,and I have been anxiously waiting for some development here that would enable me to give you further information of value. But things have been at a standstill with us for some time past and I see no immediate prospect of the deadlock's being broken. Our constitution requires a three-fourths vote,in order to locate any one of the missionary force;and as Bro.Bissell objected to going to Batopilas,and Mr.Olds had voted aye on condition that Bissell were willing to go,the motion was lost. I feel just as Mr.Wase expressed it,writing from California,that he "hoped if Mr. B.did not *want* to go to B.,that he would *not be sent there*." There is a ray of light today,in the shape of a letter from Mr.Wright,dated in Batopilas on the 30th June,and written about money matters almost excbusively;but in which he says:"This is certainly a wonderfully open field for work,and we need to pray much for divine direction in carrying it on. José [our newly-located native preacher,of whom I wrote you two months ago,-J.D.E.] shows a most excellent spirit in all things so far,and has gained the high esteem of the brethren already,and is being well received by others. He is one of the three *sinodales* for the public examination of the schools. We have called upon the mayor this morning,and arranged for the continuance of the services in the jail".

It is my hope that when Mr.Wright returns home,the latter part of this month,or the first of August,he may be so impressed himself with the importance of the opportunity,emphasized by Mr.Case,as to be ready for some radical step. But with no two missionaries living at the same station,and so *widely* scattered as we are,it will be very difficult for us to come to a nearly unanimous decision, [all but one voting in the affirmative], regarding any change in the location of our forces.

The interval of time which has elapsed since my letters to you were written has but served to confirm my impressions, that it would be much wiser for us to close the training school until after the next annual meeting, that is, for one school year. Then we should be in a position to consider more impartially the two questions, as to [1] the location of the school, and [2] its character. If the Education Society insists upon the payment of rent, while withdrawing itself from the equal partnership arrangement, I presume the mission would be inclined to favor locating the school elsewhere; but if the Society gives the buildings to the Board, or offers them rent free, for the purpose of a school in El Paso, then the majority very likely would favor continuing the work where it is, although a few of us question the advisability of educating Mexican preachers on American soil, and amongst an overwhelmingly American population.

The Rev. H. B. Pratt, of Congregational stock, but formerly a So. Presb. miss'y in So. America, and for the last eight years and more a translator, the chief one, of the *Version Moderna* of the Spanish Bible, is now working in Laredo, Texas, on the Rio Grande. Without having seen Dr. Nevius' book, he is now advocating the establishment of a training school for men and youths, somewhat on Dr. Nevius' plan, not necessarily with the idea of making *preachers* of the students; but his home missionary society does not yet see its way clear to the establishing of such a school on American soil, and Mr. Pratt writes us, in a letter received today, that if his domestic board does not furnish him this indispensable means for prosecuting the work amongst the Mexicans in Texas, he would be ready to undertake such a Biblical Institute for us, if desired. He was led to make the offer, by our referring again to the possibility of his working in connection with our mission, as for example, taking the training school, so as to release Mr. Wright. I cannot help expressing, with emphasis, the wish that the Prudential Committee, after waiting a reasonable length of time for the mission to make up its mind on the Batopilas question, would take matters into its own hands, appoint the new man, if a suitable person can be found, and reccommend the temporary closing of the training school. After-Dec. 31st next, Mr. Pratt will certainly know the mind of his home board in regard to his proposal, and in three or four months after that, we should be in session as a mission, to consider that and other plans.

When José Ibáñez passed through here on his way to Batopilas, about a month ago, he expressed the same opinion which I had entertained, and expressed at our mission meeting, viz., that it would have a depressing effect upon the six or eight students left in El Paso, to find themselves deserted by so many of their comrades. He said they had already remarked, in anticipation, that their literary society would have to be given up. Their musical and gymnastic exercises would certainly be lame affairs. He also said that the suspension of the school, so far from discouraging any worthy ones from entering the ministry, would serve for testing the strength of conviction and the tenacity of purpose of the young men.

When Gov. Shepherd and his wife passed through here on their way to-Batopilas, a little over two weeks ago, [after having been in Mexico City, where imortant interviews were had with Prest. Diaz, especially with reference to a concession for a railroad to be buelt to the west coast from here,] I called upon them, reporting "progress". They expressed readiness to have a new man sent to B., if an experienced one could not be had. But ~~doubtless~~ I fear that would affect unfavorably the subscriptions for a school, for the first year.

No, I had not had the slightest intimation from any one, that another relative of Mr. Wright's, Miss Olds, had applied for appointment as a missionary. I formed a very favorable impression of Miss Olds when she made a visit here, but did not know that she was a teacher.

In the previous letters I have expressed the opinion that Mr. Wright could perform more fruitful service, either in Batopilas, or occupying the State of Sonora. At our annual meeting he expressed surprise, a pleased surprise, that the mission should vote to contnue the training school under the reduced appropriation.

4

I think it was a mistake to have any action reported to Boston by our secretary, which should involve the voting of a "Special" by the Prud. Com. Those $250 Mexican were reported by Parral station to the mission treasurer, at the close of the year 1895, on the recommendation of several of the missionaries, as but a small part of the unexpended balance of appropriations for girls' schools for that year, and a sum that would have to be used for providing quarters for the school at that station the coming year, in view of the erection of the memorial chapel, in part upon the school site. The sum was thus included by me in my last report for the year to the Board's treasurer, and therefore we do not avail ourselves now of the "special" kindly voted. Our idea was to save occupying the valuable time of the Com. with a matter of transfer that appeared plainly justifiable.

There is another matter, which I hope secured mention in the minutes; for it is necessary for the mission treasurer to know as soon as possible whether he will be authorized to use the unexpended balance of Rev. A. B. Case's salary for this year, in meeting the expense of payment of allowances to our few native helpers that remain to us. As mentioned in my previous communications of May 4-7, we have dropped three of the most experienced ones, and we have left but seven, on a reduced basis, for the entire mission, in four different States. But if we cannot have the salary balance above-referred to, as the mission felt sure we could, in view of our crippled condition, and the fact that we returned to the treasury, last Dec. over $2,000 gold of the appropriations, -then we mast dismiss half of the remaining helpers, or run in debt for 1897. With the report in the last "Herald" of a deceased woman's vote for work in Mexico, I do not see how such a small request can be denied.

Referring to yours of June 27th, can you not send me some description of the personal appearance, possibly even a photograph, of young Washburn? As it is, I do not see how otherwise I can aid much in discovering his whereabouts. Criminals coming here often change their names, and an insane person might do the same, I suppose.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

My machine is out of order and has inserted many hyphens needlessly.

To accompany Estimates for 1897.

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 8-11-96
Ans'd

CHIHUAHUA, August 5,1896.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Under cover with this I send the Mission Estimates for 1897, which have been ready for some time; but it seemed prudent to retain them for a while, because last year they were forwarded on the 19th June, and were filed away and forgotten, so that in August I received a request for them.

I have not sufficient information to enable me to distribute the items amongst the different Women's Board's, nor to indicate what contributions are made by the natives.

The amount indicated for the Training School, $1,515 gold, is obtained by deducting the salary of the Director, Mr. Wright, from the half of the total sum expended hitherto xxxxxxxx on the school by the two societies, the Board's half having been of late $2.335. This leaves the school with the same amount as before, from the Board's standpoint; but it really reduces its resources by more than one-half, after the support of Mr. Wright is secured.

Perhaps the Parral station made a mistake in not making application, at the annual meeting, for an appropriation to pay rent for quarters for the school there next year, since the new memorial church is going up on the former site of the school, and the latter is now installed in a rented building, -the rent being met from the unused appropriation of last year for schools, authorized by the P.C. to be used in this way. I will write to Mr. Olds about this, and he may ask to have an item added to these Estimates.

You will notice that the mission made no provision for the attendance of lady missionaries at the next annual meeting.

The "$200 Mex. for Moving Helpers" appears to be a new thing, but it is so only in name, having been provided for under other heads before. As none of them are settled pastors, some changes are made every year, over our wide territory. After nine years interval, a Gen. Assembly of Prot-Missions is expected to be held next year in the City of Mexico, for which a committe of arrangements is already actively at work.

The "rate of exchange" is kept at the figure of several years past, although it has not been so low as seventy-five per cent premium for gold since December of 1893. Thus, after paying Salaries of Missionaries, and supporting the Training School if it is kept in the United States, there will be a saving to the treasury of the Board, if the rate of exchange continues to be above 75.

It did not seem best to insert the name of Miss Mary F. Long on account of her late appointment to serve one year, because her present engagement may terminate next summer, -half way through 1897, and she is not yet an "assistant missionary".

Very respectfully yours,

James D. Eaton

P.S. August 5,1896.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Your favor of July 27th,received yesterday,I hoped to answer today, but interruptions have prevented. I hope to be able to reply tomorrow however.

J.D.E.

Chihuahua, Aug. 5, 1896.

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd Aug 13.96
Ans'd 9.23

CHIHUAHUA, August 7,1896.

Rev.James L.Barton,D.D.
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Referring to your letter of the 27th July,-I learned with great interest of the communication you had sent to Mr.Wright, in regard to the advisability of continuing the training school in its present location, and hope that we may all soon have more light on the present problems, since Mr. Wright returned to his family in Parral on the 1st inst, and now plans to return to El Paso the latter part of next week.

The Rev.H.B.Pratt could not occupy Batopilas,chiefly on account of an infirmity of his, which would make it impracticable for him to ride on horse or mule back so much as would then be necessary. But,as you say,he might release some one else to go there. In this connection,it may be well to inform you of Mr.Pratt's proposal, to retire from connection with the Board, (should he be appointed,) upon reaching the age of seventy years, or even earlier in case he should become disabled for doing active work. Thus he would not become a charge upon the treasury. He is a remarkably vigorous and active man,at about sixty-four years of age,doing more work probably than most men twenty years his junior. He is not happy unless he can preach seven times a week,and he is an indefatigable student.

I note what you say of the reluctance of the P.C. to establish the precedent of granting, in aid of the general work, the unexpended balance of Mr. Case's salary for this year, and therefore I shall not make the formal application for it,unless the Mission requests me so to do,-as I informed Mr.Wright yesterday by letter. The want of it,together with the incurring of extra expense in connection with sending a native preacher to Batopilas,without our having been able yet to secure aid from residents there to any great extent because of our failure to send the missionary and open a boys' school, will throw us badly into debt by the end of this year, unless the training school be given up. You will infer that I do not wholly regret this pecuniary pressure upon the mission for a reconsideration of the small vote by which it ordered the continuance of the school the coming school year.

An early visit to this mission by you seemed to be foreshadowed by your letter to Mrs. Eaton. I earnestly hope that it may be accomplished. Dr. Clark's visit here in 1888 proved afterward to be of great use to him and to us all. We have been greatly benefited also by the visits of Sec. Hitchcock and Dr. Daniels. But I should hope you would plan to see more of the field than did any of the three, and you could easily visit every station but Fuerte, since El Paso and Chihuahua are on the main route, and Guadalajara is but a little more than 38 hours from here now. Parral is about fifty miles by daily stage from the station Jimenez, on the main line of the Mexican Central, on the way to Guadalajara; and breakfasting in Jimenez you would take supper in Parral.

Hermosillo, the capital of Sonora, is on the line of the Sonora R.R., between Nogales and the port of Guaymas, and if it seemdd very disirable for Mr. Bissell to meet you, he could come to Hermosillo. You would naturally take the Santa Fe Route to Deming, N.M., there changing to the So. Pacific, which you would leave at Benson for the south via Nogales. As requested by the mission, I am planning to go to Hermosillo about the middle of September, to spend a month or more there and at the out-stations, to look after our greatly neglected work, for the care of which we have only one young man, a student from El Paso, who went there in June, at the end of the month. He is meeting with encouragement and also some difficulties, and begs me to come as soon as possible. He is a native of that State, but it would not be prudent for me to go earlier than I have indicated. Now would it not be possible for you, after the annual meeting of the Board, so to arrange your affairs during the succeeding week, as to undertake your journey hither the third week in October, or the fourth, going immediately to Sonora, where I could be ready to receive you, in company with Bro. Bissell, if that were thought to be best. Then you would take in El Paso and Chihuahua, where Bro. H. T. Wagner could easily meet you, if you did not wish to travel 125 miles to the westward; and so on southward. It is a pleasanter time of year for visiting northern Mexico than is the Spring, because the country has not yet become wholly brown and bare-looking, and there is less likelihood of encountering dust storms. Guadalajara's climate is delightful the year round, in comparison. I also think that a visit of this sort, to the missionaries at work on their fields, would be much more profitable to you as an official of the Board, than merely to make one of their gathering at an annual meeting, -especially as the annual meetings now are to be a species of "Stag party", since the ladies have for the most part been excluded by our obedience to that *Handbook*. True, we did have woman's work represented by three unmarried ladies at our last meeting, but the results were not wholly satisfactory, and the mission did not ask for funds to pay the expenses of ~~a single~~ one lady missionary as delegate the next time. Dr. Clark always favored our getting together at the annual meeting as many as possible of both sexes, on account of our living at such widely separated points; and from the beginning all ladies had just the same voice and vote as the men. Some of the Presbyterian and Methodist missionaries' wives in this country are not much in evidence in the missionary work, but *our* married ladies are actively engaged, without exception, and most of them even in the school room, to some extent. For one, I shall never feel satisfied until the Board allows us to count *all the ladies* as a basis of representation, and to elect them as full delegates, if a station so wishes, without regard to sex or "previous condition of servitude"!

With this I send a local paper published in English, which contains a few items regarding material improvements in Sonora. "Minas Prietas" is a twin town to La Colorada, [one mile distant] where we have a congregation. It is expected that a branch railroad will soon be built from the Sonora R.W., starting from Torres, where Mr. Crawford left a lot for a chapel, to that flourishing mining camp.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd Aug. 26,
Ans'd

CHIHUAHUA, August 20, 1891.

To the Members of the Prudential Committee of the A.B.C.F.M.

Dear Brethren:-

At our late annual meeting, holding at the end of April, it was the unanimous opinion of the missionaries that, in view of the retirement of the Rev. A. B. Case, and the other losses we had suffered during the previous two years, and remembering the fact that at the close of last year, we had returned to the treasury over two thousand dollars in gold of unexpended appropriations, (largely on account of those losses in the working force,) we would be allowed to use the unexpended balance of the salary of Mr. Case for this year for carrying on the general work.

It appears that, by some oversight, no mention of this was made in the Minutes of the meeting which were sent to Boston. I am now instructed by the Mission to make formal application to you for permission to use the amount indicated, and for the purpose stated. Owing to our being scattered over enormous distances, it was not practicable for us to come to an understanding as to how to make the reductions ordered, before the time of the annual meeting; and by that time they could begin to be applied, only when the year should be about half gone. After making reductions where we thought the least harm would result, and after cutting down our very small number of native helpers, [10 or 11, of whom only one is yet ordained, and no one settled over a church], to seven for the four States in which we have resident missionaries, including Sonora, we found that we should still be behind, by the amount of $1,036.71 at the end of the year. Since the meeting, matters have become worse; for in consequence of our inability to supply Batopilas promptly with a foreign male teacher and preacher and thus secure the aid of the subscriptions by residents of that place, we have been put to the expense of over $200.00 silver for transporting a native evangelist and family to that remote point, and have been obliged to pay him more than we had planned for, as he has no school yet.

We beg you therefore to grant us, if possible, the Balance of salary referred to, which amounts for the rest of this year, to $801.15, [eight hundred and one dollars and fifteen cents], gold, but which does not include the allowance added to salary for rent of residence.

If this be not done, the only alternative of which we know, (I am instructed by the Mission to say) will be the suspension of the Training School in El Paso, Texas, for the half of whose support last year, [including salary of the missionary director, Mr. Wright], the Board appropriated $2,365.00 gold. Even with that entire amount at command, the school would still be most seriously crippled through the prospective withdrawal from the partnership arrangement of the Education Society.

Anxiously awaiting your decision, I remain

As ever,

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton
Mission Treas^r

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd Aug 26.
Ans'd

CHIHUAHUA, August 20, 1896.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Immediately upon the receipt of your letter of July 27, (to which a reply was sent on the 7th of August,) I informed my associates of the situation in regard to the granting, or not, of the unexpended balance of Mr. Case's salary in aid of the general work of this mission for the current year, and told them that under the circumstances I should not make the formal application to the Prudential Committee, through you, for such grant, unless I were ordered to do so by the mission. The matter was at once presented to the mission by our present president, Rev. A. C. Wright, and it was voted to "instruct the mission treasurer to make formal application to the Board to be allowed to apply on the General Work of the Mission the unexpended balance of the salary of Mr. Case for this year, ($301.15 gold); and that he also express to the Board the sentiment of the Mission, that only alternative of which we know, will be the suspension of the Training school at El Paso". I beg therefore that you will present to the Committee the application herewith enclosed.

We learn from the Rev. H. B. Pratt, of Laredo, Texas, that his Board of Domestic Missions has at last granted him a small sum for the starting of such a Bible Institute as he outlined in his letter to us, and of which he has written fully and suggestively to "El Faro", the Presb'n organ here, and he will send for his wife, and begin the work; so we can hardly look for help in that direction.

Yours very truly,

James D. Eaton

Aug. 20. 96

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 9-29-96
Ans'd 10

CHIHUAHUA, Sept.26,1896.

Rev.James L.Barton,D.D.
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

You have doubtless received my letters of the 7th and 20th of August,the former discussing several matters with some fulness,especially the idea of your making us a visit. I suppose that your many cares and axieties in connection with the close of the financial year of the Board,and preparations for the near annual meeting,have made it difficult for you to get time for replying; but we earnestly hope that some decisive word may soon reach us, as so many plans are depending upon what we may hear from headquarters.

Your last letter to me stated, that you had "raised the question,in a communication to Mr.Wright,as to the advisability of continuing the training school in its present location." But in his frequent letters to me, he has made no allusion whatever to such a question from you. Bro.Howland and myself (who form the board of visitors for the School) in accordance with Mr.Wright's own proposal,advised the postponement of the opening of the school for one month, that is until Oct.1st, to allow time for hearing from Boston; and in reply to Mr. Wright's later question,I have written that, in my opinion,he would be justified in opening the school then,without vote by the mission,should he hear from you that the balance of Mr.Case's salary ~~xx~~ is granted.

Should,however,the grant not be made,then I should think his time would be more profitably employed in supplying the vacant State of Sonora,than in overseeing the Mexican congregations in El Paso and across the river,seeing that three other denominations are holding regular services for the Mexicans in El Paso,and one other in Ciudad Juarez, while there is no one in the city of Hermosillo but our own native preacher,who is giving a part of his time to

Mintas Prietas etc. But if Mr.Wright is to go,it would not be the wisest use of mission funds for me to make the contemplated visit now. If I am not to go there, I wish to plan for early visits to distant out-stations,whither I cannot well go,if I am soon to be absent from this city for a considerable time. The So.Methodists are to hold their annual conference,[for Northwest-Mexico] in Nogales,on the border,beginning Oct.8th, and I was desirous of being in Hermosillo before that date,so that they might not think we have abandoned our work there, whither their preacher, stationed in Guaymas, has gone twice during the present year to hold meetings in our chapel,under an appearance of friendliness; but I doubt him somewhat, since when he was located in this city,he tried to get leading families away from us.

In this city,we have hardly ever known the work to be in so encouraging a state as it is now both as to numbers attending the services,and the spiritual tone prevalent. This may be due in part to the fact, that my wife and I have not taken even one week off for vacation, but have continued doing full work,with some extra undertakings,right through the heated term. Mrs.Eaton, I regret to say, seems to show now some ill effects of such unremitting labor. It is really too much for her to attend to the duties of secretary of the United Societies of C.E.for this country,besides all that she was doing before.

It is right for you to know, that the vote,adding the words quoted in the enclosed letter to the Prud.Com.,was three to two,besides Mr.Wright himself who proposed the motion. The same vote carried another motion of his,to the effect, "That in view of the expressed willingness for such a step [by two of them,,J.D.E.], the lady teachers of the mission,whose salaries have remained the same,while all others have been cut,be requested to donate ten per cent of their salaries to the general work of the mission".

While I agree with the rest in thinking, that the present partnership arrangement between the American Board and the Women's Boards is working injustice, and causing a lack of proper balance amongst the several departments of our work, I do not think that the best remedy for this unfortunate state of airs is to close the girls' schools, and ask the ladies to surrender their tenth too. I would rather see the ladies' work kept up to at least its present point of advancement, and have the endeavor made to bring the evangelistic and cational work for boys again up to its former standard, or even beyond it.

I do hope that some day may witness a consolidation effected between the two boards, which will remove the present infelicities.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, Sept.23,1896.

To the Members of the Prudential Committee of the A.B.C.F.M.

I. L. B.
Rec'd 9-29-96
Ans'd

Boston, Mass.

Dear Brethren:-

Referring to my communication of the 20th August last, which made a plea that we be granted the unexpended balance of Rev. A.B. Case's salary for the present year, to be applied to-the prosecution of the General Work, and in which it was stated that the only alternative would be "the suspension of the Training School in El Paso",-I am now instructed further, by a majority vote of the Mission, to add the words: "unless the suspension of the Girls' Schools be allowed instead, in order to continue the more important-work off the education of the native ministry".

Very respectfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

Chihuahua, Sep. 23, 1896.

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd
Ans'd 10-21-96

CHIHUAHUA, Oct. 2, 1896.

Chihuahua, Sep. 23, 1896.

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton,

Toledo, O.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Your long-looked-for letter, under date of the 23rd ult., is in hand, and leaves us still somewhat in the dark. I am very sorry indeed that we cannot look for you here the present year; but your reasons are sufficient. It would be true economy for the churches, in my judgment, to increase the secretarial force so as to keep one of the number occupied about all of the time in visiting the foreign fields.

Mr. Wright has taken the responsibility, partly on the strength of letters received from individuals of the mission, of summoning back the students, and re-opening the training school on the first day of this month. I hope that the income of the Board may so improve as to make it possible to furnish us more funds, and thus save us from the mistake of expending an undue proportion upon the young men engaged in study.

It seems hardly fair to you for me to address you at Toledo, when your every moment must be so fully occupied; but what you said in regard to "looking for some one to take Mr. Case's place", impels me to beg you not to lose sight of this need of ours during the sessions of the Board at its annual meeting. Doubtless many theological graduates and young pastors will be in attendance upon the meetings, and it is my eager hope and earnest prayer that amongst them you may discover, before you leave Toledo, the one whom God has chosen to bear his name before this people. Is it not a worthy Christian ambition to take possession of a State like Sonora, in the name of the Lord? The opening for gospel work here never seemed so favorable as it is now. The coronation of the Virgin of Guadalupe, one year ago, which the Romanists hoped would greatly advance their cause, and disconcert the liberal party, was a much smaller affair than they had planned for, and has had an influence very directly against their interests. Many Romanists do not hesitate to declare their disbelief of the traditional appearance of the Virgin to the poor Mexican Indian 300 years ago, and one of their bishops is of the number, and has resigned his office; and yesterday's paper, edited by a sympathizer with the church, announced that he had begun to let his beard grow, and dresses like other men, only reserving, so far, his pastoral ring. The Presbyterians in Mexico city, including Arcadio Morales, have issued a call to prayer , during the first twelve days of this month, for the complete overthrow of this superstition which stands so much in the way of the progress of the Kingdom; and from the 4th to the 11th inst we shall hold daily meetings in our church, treating of the subjects at issue beteen Romanism and Protestantism, especially as related to this idolatry. We shall pray and hope for conversions as the direct result.

The week after that, I must visit a few points to the south, and soon thereafter leave for a month in Sonora, if no contrary word comes from Boston.

I regret exceedingly to hear that you have not received the written report of the last year's work of our mission. Several of the station reports, in duplicate, were left here by the late secretary, Mr. Case; and before the end of May I expressed them, by Wells, Fargo & Co., to the new secretary, Mr. Howland, in Guadalajara. He left about that time, to take his very sick child to Michigan, then attended the C.E. Convention in Zacatecas, with Dr. F.E. Clark; and accepted the presidency of the united society for this country, ~~when he already had quite enough to do.~~ I hope indeed there has been no loss in the mails, which would occasion all of us considerable extra work.

Your quotation from the Hand Book, in regard to voting at the annual meeting, does not seem to meet the case with us, since an extension of the privilege to all present, would give undue share of influence to this station, (where we meet about half the time,)-in the opinion of some of the others; and it would not provide in advance for bringing lady delegates to the meeting. And it

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seems to me that the stations of Guadalajara and Chihuahua, with four missio aries and assistant missionaries each, as a rule, might very properly have mo voting representation, than, for example, Guerrero or Fuerte, with but two Amer workers each. If we were allowed to send one delegate to the annual meet for each three American workers, or fraction of three, at any given station, w out regard to sex, the discrimination which now seems unfortunate to some o number, would be removed. Practically, the ordained missionaries would alway sent, unless one were physically incapacitated; and no one need fear that th two or three ladies would attempt to manage things, in opposition to the gene will. Our ladies, both the married and the unmarried, are not of that kind, even if they were, they would be in a hopeless minority at the annual meeting

Praying that you may have all needed strength for the demands upon yo coming week, and that large blessing may descend upon the great gathering, I

Faithfully Yours,

James D. Eaton

ddress:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
ia El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 10-27-96
Ans'd 11-5

CHIHUAHUA, Oct. 22, 1896.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston,

Dear Dr. Barton:-

No further word has come from you since the note dated Sept. 30th, which brought the good news of the grant of $800 to help us out of our serious embarrassment. We are very grateful for this timely aid.

I trust you received at Toledo my letter/of the 2nd inst, which urged the claims of Sonora upon the attention of possible candidates for the missionary service.

On the 10th I heard from Mr. Wagner that his wife had already begun to suffer from an affection of the throat, which gave her trouble all last winter, and that they feared it might be necessary to seek somewhere relief from the cold winds of Guerrero for a few months, although they greatly regretted leaving a work which affords great encouragement now. It at once occurred to Mrs. Eaton and myself that it might be well for the Wagners to go to Sonora for six months, until our next annual meeting, in place of the contemplated visit by ourselves of only a month or two. I accordingly telegraphed them, and got the response that under the circumstances they would go, if mission approved. I then wrote to all our associates, and got favorable response from all but the distant Bissell. So now arrangements are making for their early departure for Hermosillo, where the oranges and dates grow. When Wagner first joined us, it was thought he might go to that station, but he feared his wife would be unable to endure the great heat so they were located in the sierra field. But these six months will afford them fine opportunity for testing the climate over there, and we shall have more light upon the problem of supplying Sonora, at our next meeting. The loss in the Sierras will be more than made up by this giving of attention to Sonora which has -

been so neglected of late years,since the death of Bro.Crawford and the illness of Mrs.Case and the speedy removal of that family. We have put the Wagners into communication already with Mrs.Crawford and Mr.Case,in order that they may gather all the wisdom possible, to help them in facing the situation over there.

Our native preacher in Hermosillo has just written to me expressing his satisfaction at the prospect of so soon welcoming the missionary family for a stay of months.

The Committee which has in charge the making of arrangements for the next [the second] General Assembly of Protestant Missions, to be held in Mexico City the last week in January next,has asked me to present the subject of Self-Support,in connection with a prominent Mexican minister of the Northern Methodist Church;he to present the "Duty and Privilege of all our Churches" in the matter, and I to suggest "Methods," for the purpose of introducing an extended discussion It is the subject which is now to the fore in this country,all the evangelical papers printing articles and letters on the topic,which has created considerable heat in some quarters,notably in the ranks of the So.Methodists; so that a monthly periodical has actually been started to combat the positions assumed by the Rev.George B. Winton,of San Luis Potosí,who is editor of their denominational organ,"El Evangelista",[or was;for he has been superseded this month,on account of this feeling],and the director of their teological school.

I have concluded to accept the somewhat delicate commission,and do the best I can with it. Possibly the committee selected me as one of the older missionaries who had not yet been drawn into public discussion of the subject,so as to excite antagonism. Any suggestion which you may feel disposed to give me in this connection,would be thankfully received. As Bissell and I were delegates to the first Assembly,in 1888, Howland and Wright were chosen this time. But I am ready to make considerable sacrifice,if necessary,to attend,after so long an interval of absence from the central portions of the republic. Oh!that your engagements might allow you to accompany us on the occasion!

Thankful to read of so excellent a meeting at Toledo,I am

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 11-16-96
Ans'd 21

CHIHUAHUA, Nov.10,1896.

Rev.James L.Barton,D.D.
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

It is to be hoped that you have not been inconvenienced by my delay in replying to your inquiry under date of the 22nd Oct.,in reference to the expediency of appointing Miss Isabel Miller to work as assistant missionary in this country. It is not easy to make direct reply,so much depends upon "the personal equation". The lady's knowledge of the people and their language ~~as~~ is a fine equipment for the work, and if the English blood clearly predominates over the Spanish and Indian,through inheritance or education,or both,I should favor making the experiment of commissioning her. But you know from personal experience doubtless,and probably much better than I do,what are the risks. It might be very unfortunate if Miss Miller should lean,in her sympathies,more to the side of the natives than to that of the missionaries,in her intercourse with the people. The incoming of so many Americans,to occupy places of honor and emolument in business enterprises,to the displacement of many Mexicans,[as it appears to them],awakens feelings of envy and jealousy in the minds of many of these,as was to be expected in the case of the weaker people. In the missions that are more fully developed than our own,there is considerable manifestation of this race feeling between the native preachers and the foreign missionaries,especially amongst the Southern Methodists I think,[perhaps it seems so because I have been brought into contact with them more than with the other religious bodies], and we see symptoms of the same amongst our own few preachers and students. An imprudent lady missionary might do much to foment trouble,by talking too freely with the natives concerning her foreign associates,their manner of life,idiosyncracies etc. We have regretted the inclination shown by one or two ladies that have been connected with our mission, to gossip with the people, seeming to encourage them to talk about one another, and even about some of the missionaries. The Mexicans, upon being given the slightest encouragement, talk about everybody and everything, and exercise little or no restraint upon themselves even when they are in presence of their children. I should hope that Miss Miller would be a discreet person.

If she is accustomed to a hot climate, that would be a valuable qualification in one who was to go to El Fuerte, where I fear that not many of our ladies could live with safety to their health. And if you are in any doubt as to the advisability of appointing a "creole", it might be well for you to communicate with Mr. Bissell and his wife, since the lady would be almost wholly dependent upon those two for her society. Mrs. Eaton and I are pretty well persuaded that whenever it is practicable, it is better to locate the single ladies in pairs, to enable them to make a home for themselves, and so in a manner be independent of the missionary family, although it is doubtless true, as Mr. Rowland suggests, that ~~often~~ sometimes the two are not congenial companions, and one might find more of sympathy with the married couple.

Also, we question the wisdom of the policy of granting to each station in this country, (where no two ordained missionaries are located together) one or more American lady teachers. They, are rarely needed for company to the missionary family, and will be less and less, as the influx of foreigners from the States increases. And the government is doing more and more all the time for the education of both sexes. It seems to us, that it would be wiser to concentrate our lady teachers at two points, (or perhaps at three, on account of the large territory we cover,) for the education of native workers, and then supply the schools at some stations, as well as out-stations, with the native Christean teachers raised up in those central establishments.

I am very glad to learn that the Annual Meeting approved the finding of a man or family at once for Mexico. I had not seen that statement.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, Nov. 25, 1896.

J. L. B.
Rec'd 12-2-96
Ans'd 21

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.

Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Your valuable communication of the 5th inst, upon the subject of Self-support, was received by me on my return from the visit to San Buenaventura, and I thank you heartily for giving me so much of your time and thought with regard to the matter. I enclose an outline program in ~~Sxxxxxx~~ English, of the approaching "General Assembly of Evangelical Workers in Mexico", to be held in the City of Mexico Jan. 27-31, 1897, -taken from the full program in Spanish, of which I send you a copy under another cover. Although you give me no encouragement to expect you, I do not lose all hope that you may yet find it possible to attend the sessions. Our Board was not represented at the former Assembly; and the only foreign corresponding secretary who has ever visited us, was Dr. Clark, who came in 1885, before the railroad was built to Guadalajara, and who entered no further into the country than this city, of Chihuahua. Of course the Methodists, both North and South, send their bishops every year to preside over the conferences, and other official representatives come from time to time. Dr. F. F. Ellinwood and Mr. Robert Speer have both traveled quite extensively here, to say nothing of other Presbyterians. We were very glad to have Dr. Daniels with us at one of our annual meetings, two years ago, but he of course is not in correspondence usually with our mission, and he got no further than this city.

I think you are already informed that Messrs. Howland and Wright are the delegates named by our mission for the second Assembly, although I expect to attend on my own responsibility. There is no limit placed to the attendance; but the effort is making to secure as large a number as possible of both native and foreign workers. The So. Meth. preacher (Mexican) in this city, came to see me yesterday, in regard to the cost of the round trip, as he hopes to go. I observe that the religious papers of the U.S. are beginning to call attention to the assembly, and advise Christian workers to plan for a visit to Mexico at that time.

My visit to the little church of San Buenaventura had a pleasant prelude in the fact that I enjoyed the company, (so far as the railroad reached), of General Hernandez, who is in command of this military "zone". And on the day after our arrival at S.B. I was invited, in company with several prominent citizens, to meet the General at a private house and afterward go with him to the place where the mayor had assembled about a hundred citizens (men) to hear this representative of President Diaz explain the project for extending the federal telegraph line to that point and beyond, through the cooperation of the towns directly interested.

On the evening of the same day I went to the private house where our people hold most of their meetings, prepared to preach a sermon; but I found that they, in anticipation of my coming, which coincided pretty nearly with an anniversary of the organization of the church, had prepared a program of songs and recitations suitable to such an occasion, which was carried through in a very creditable manner, chiefly through the efforts of the young people. They intended this to be a surprise for me, which it certainly was. One of their own church officers presided; and I merely directed them, at their request, in the election of officers for the coming year. One of the officers, who was the first deacon of the church, has nearly completed a chapel, of which some report was given two or three years ago, and which he is constructing at his own charges. It has still to be plastered inside, and the floor laid, and the few windows glazed. But the boards necessary are piled up on the inside, and I was commissioned to purchase on his account the necessary materials in this city about the end of next February, for completing the work. I have promised him a bell, to be bought with money sent me spontaneously by the Sunday School of the church in Montclair, N.J., of which I am a member, with my wife, who was one of its charter members. The chapel measures inside about fifty-five feet in length by twenty-five in width, with a lofty ceiling. Sr. Teófilo Romero, the builder, (who has two girls in our boarding school here, and had a son for a year or so in our training school in El Paso), has moved into town from his farm in the country, and occupies rooms next the chapel, which belong to him, and where he expects to continue to reside. He told me that he planned to leave one of his sons, after his own decease, in special charge of that particular piece of property, so as to be able to take care of the chapel. He and his wife have numerous relatives in the town and vicinity, of whom a few are evangelical believers. Things move slowly there, as the church has never had a preacher located in the place, beyond the services for two summer vacations of one of the students from the training school, and visits from missionaries are very infrequent, on account of the distance from any one of our stations.

During the four days of my stay I met a good many people in their homes, and an excellent spirit was manifested in the religious services, especially in the meeting conducted by the Young Peoples Society of C.E.

I enclose, on a separate sheet, an account of the offering made by the church in Chihuahua, to help the sufferers in Turkey. If it be not available for use for use in the "Herald", amongst the letters from the missions, kindly return it to me, that I may send it elsewhere, as I have applications from both periodicals and societies, for responding to which I cannot make time.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J.L.B.
Rec'd 12-18-96
Ans'd

CHIHUAHUA, Dec.12,1896.

Rev.James L.Barton,D.D.
Boston,

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Without waiting to hear from my letter to you under date of the 25th November, I wish to present a matter personal to myself.

My parents, who are in the enjoyment of excellent health for their time of life, are looking forward to the celebration of their Golden Wedding anniversary on the 20th of next May, in Roscoe, Ill, at which happy time they of course greatly desire to have all their four sons, the only children they ever had, present. If this be accomplished, it will be the first gathering of the four brothers together, since the year 1872, when I graduated from the Sem. and my brother Edward from college, -for a quarter of a century.

On my wife's side of the house, there is to occur the marriage of a young brother of hers, in Montclair, N.J. in June. Another brother and a sister have already been married since we are living here, without my wife's being able to attend the ceremony, and it would be a great joy to her to be present on the approaching occasion.

True, it will then be only four years since we met family friends there; but our stay was brief, as we went east in June, and started back on the last day of July. Our absences from the field have always been in the summer season, and all of them together, in the fourteen years of our service under the Board, would not be equivalent to one year's time.

Another valuable experience which I should like to enjoy, if possible, would be a visit to Clifton Springs to attend the gathering of missionaries which I have never witnessed.

My experience in the summer of 1895, in San Francisco, and Portland, Ore., lec-

Chihuahua. Nov. 25. 1896

turing on Mexico, with the aid of sixty steriopticon views, makes me feel that I ought to make some use of this aid to arousing interest in the work of the Board in this country, to some extent amongst the churches in the vicinity of the homes which we should expect to visit.

Now my object in writing to you thus early, is to learn whether you know of any objection likely to be made to my request for a leave of absence, if it should be endorsed by the Mission. The time would be for three or four months counting from the middle of May, and I should expect, with careful economy, to meet my own traveling expenses, if my salary were continued through the vacation.

It will not be easy to get away from here; for at the end of June our girls' school in this city expects to graduate its first class, and the teachers wish me to present the diplomas; and in July occurs the second annual convention of the Mexican Societies of C.E., of which my wife is the active corresponding secretary, as she is the editor of the C.E. department in "El Testigo". I should be unwilling also to leave this church, if it were to suffer serious drawback in that way. But by knowing in time what must be arranged for, it will be more practicable to secure substitutes than would otherwise be the case.

So far as I am at present informed, the other missionaries are expecting to stay upon the ground this coming summer.

About the 14th January I now expect to start for Parral, to assist Mr. Olds in dedicating his memorial church, and give religious lectures illustrated with the lantern; and then on to Mexico City, to the General Assembly; so that I can then speak with three of the five ordained missionaries who, with myself constitute our present force. It will be too late to make plans after we get together in annual meeting, at the end of April.

Will you therefore kindly give me your impressions as to how the Prud. Com. would regard a request for leave of a few months this coming summer?

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

C. H. D.
Rec'd x x Y
Ans'd x x Y

CHIHUAHUA, Jan. 5, 1897.

Rev. Dr. Charles H. Daniels,

Boston,

Dear Dr. Daniels:-

There is a very estimable young lady, named Florence Shera, at present connected with the So. Methodist school in this city. She took her degree of A.B. at the University of Dublin, and is a musician as well. She had a weakness of the throat which was aggravated by the damp climate of her native country, and came to join her sister in Mexico seeking relief. This dry air agrees with her perfectly, and she is growing fleshy. Under the circumstances she thinks it better for her not to return to Ireland.

She is engaged to be married to a Wesleyan Methodist minister, named Wm. Ellsworth Dawson, a native of Yorkshire, England, who began to preach when he was only nineteen years of age, and is now twenty-eight. He has worked in cottage meetings, as an evangelist, a good deal, though latterly has been in charge of churches. His ecclesiastical year closes next June, and he can go to Dublin or Cork, as he may elect. But he does not like the itineracy, and has for years thought of joining the Congregationalists; is a friend of the Rev. Mr. Dawson of the latter body. He has written to his lady here, to learn, of me, in what way he could best be introduced to one of our churches in the southwest, or on the Pacific coast, saying that he only asks for "a small church with plenty of hard work." As we entertain a high opinion of Miss Shera's Christian character and attainments, and have learned through her that Mr. Dawson at one time seriously entertained the idea of going to Africa as a missionary, we have suggested that she inquire whether he feels drawn to work in Mexico, and that in that case he write to you about it. Some printed articles of his I have seen, show that he possesses literary ability, and he can "raise the tune" in his meetings. He may prove to be the providential man for filling our vacancy here.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

Chihuahua, Dec. 12, 96

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 1-21-97
Ans'd 3-6

CHIHUAHUA, Jan.13,1897.

Rev.Dr.James L.Barton,
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

It has not seemed possible to reply earlier to your kind letter of the 21st Dec,which arrived between Christmas and New Year's,and was followed by the Week of Prayer,preparing of essay for the Assembly in Mexico,the arranging of Mission accounts,and other extras. I think that Dr.Clark used to send a copy of the appropriations to the secretary of the Mission,who for the past year has been Mr.Howland; but I did not forward to him,because my copy of them,received earlier through Mr.Wiggin,showed several errors,clerical I presume in the first instance, affecting the salaries of Miss Long,Mrs. Howland and Mrs.Eaton, and consequently those of the husbands of these ladies, and of course the Totals. So I sent the sheets back to Boston for correction.

We are indeed sorry that no one is coming to represent the Prud. Com.,- especially as it looks as if all the other Boards,at least the chief ones engaged in the work here,would send delegates.

As to school work,-there would be no difficulty in uniting with the Presbyterians,so far as our fraternal relations with them are concerned;for these are of the most cordial nature. But most of our field is so far saparated from their center,that we should have to transport our students a very long distance,as presumably we,the smaller body,would have to go to them,and not they come to us; and our young men would be likely to become interested in work amongst their churches,so that the most promising of them might be lost to us. Further,it is doubtful whether any real economy would be secured by a union arrangement,since the Presbyterians would probably be organized for the education of candidates for the ministry on such a scale,that our part of the expense would be likely to amount to at least as much as we have been expending in El Paso. Schools for boys, for their Christian education, and from which suitable candidates for the ministry might be drawn, I regard as of great importance. In the government schools, of course no religious training is permitted, and the teachers in the boys' schools are very generally infidels, men who boast of being "freethinkers"; and their pupils soon learn to ape them. It is sad to hear the talk of the pupils with smooth boyish faces, who are in the State Institute in this city. So far as I am aware, we have not had one pupil for the training school coming from the government institutions, whereas I have known of some sad cases of Sunday School pupils of ours turned aside from the preparation for the ministry they had chosen, by the blighting influence of those schools. Our earlier candidates studied with the missionaries, and partly in a mixed school, (for both sexes), such as we had at the start in this city, and some have been taught for a while by Miss Prescott, in Parral, out of her regular school hours.

When Dr. A. W. Hitchcock was here, about six years ago, he spoke to me very strongly of his conviction that we ought to have boys' schools, as feeders to the training school.

During the Week of Prayer, for the first time in a number of years, we had union meetings with the So. Methodists, -the Mexican minister in charge having accepted very cordially my proposal for union, and we alternated between the churches, each minister preaching in the house of worship of the other. There are some disadvantages, it is true, connected with the holding of union meetings, especially when it is desired to bring out the silent ones of one's own congregation. But there was manifested on all hands so cordial a spirit of fraternity, and so many new hearers were brought out through the efforts of the brethren for the time, that the results were most satisfactory. Some five persons also were led to declare in public their wish to follow Christ.

For Christmas Eve we had prepared, as is our custom, to present to the public a strictly religious exercise, and for Christmas night a program in the building of the day school,of music,recitations and games,followed by the distribution of simple gifts by a real "Santa Claus",-his first appearance in this city at any place, An illness of mine caused the postponement of the former observance until Sunday night,which was perhaps as well,since the attendance was larger than it would otherwise have been . On Christmas night all enjoyed themselves hugely. The names of women and children belonging to the Sunday School made a list of one hundred and twenty,to which about forty more might be added for the men and youths. Friends,including a few Americans,principally of teacher in the Methodist school,made up about two hundred persons to crowd the main school room. On Sunday night the children brought offerings for those poorer than themselves,of eatables and wearables,which were piled up on the communion table,as an offering to the Lord,with suitable words spoken by the little ones; and indivuals from the congregation came forward to deposit in the plate there their gifts in money. The day following a goodly number of poor children,who do not attend our services,were gathered in the church of the Protestants to receive this aid;and money and articles were afterward carried to the public hospital,(which is largely supported by devout Roman Catholic ladies),to be distributed amongst the more needy inmates.

Some days before this,there occurred a wedding,for which my services had been engaged a month previously. The lady and gentleman are Episcopalians/and it had been hoped,some months before,that a brother of hers,a clergyman,would come from Kentucky to perform the ceremony. In a similar case,a few years ago,where I was very-well acquainted with the lady, an Episcopal clergyman was imported for the occasion,from El Paso. In this case,the lady is cousin to the principal banker here,Mr.Creel,who married a daughter of Gen.Terrazas,who was governor of this State when we came in 1882,as he had been for 16 or 17 year already. He is the wealthiest man in the State,and all are Roman Catholics,and the chief supporters,financially,of the bishop. The lady's brother, Mr. Peters, who married to-a sister of the same banker Creel, a year or two ago, by the bishop himself, by a special dispensation, he being a Protestant.

It was a quiet house wedding, but the large parlors were filled with numerous relatives,-three brothers Creel, three brother Terrazas, theirs wives and older children, and other friends, only three American fagilies beeing present. After the judge, with his witnesses, had performed the civil ceremony, (which is the only legal one here,) my turn came; and the larger part of that audience company then witnessed for the first time a Protestant marriage ceremony. The episcopal form was used of course, but the moral effect was the same. Mrs. Eaton was invited, and we both were treated with the greatest courtesy; the gentlemen could not have been more polite to me, had I been the bishop himself. The fact that I was acquainted in a business way with most of the gentlemen, having done business with Mr. Creel for over eleven years, of course made me feel more at my ease than would otherwise have been the case; and this fact may have helped the interested parties to decide to engage my services. The event took place in the very house where Gov. Terrazas used to live, (he has built him a new residence), and into whose inner court I used to glance somewhat curiously never supposing that I, the Protestant intruder, could ever be welcome there. We were sent home in Mr. Creel's carriage. I have thus given the story somewhat at length, since you will appreciate the event, as showing how old prejudices are breaking down. At the wedding supper, and afterward at the gatherings in school and church, I could not help reflecting upon the astonishing contrast between Then and Now; as at the beginning we had not a single adherent, and I read a notice posted upon the Cathedral's front entrance, warning the faithful not to rent us a house, nor sell us furniture, food or drink, nor work for us, nor attend our services,-under pain of excommunication. For over five months after our arrival, I could not get a teacher of the Spanish, on account of this prejudice. The gentlemen were willing, except that their wives and mothers and sisters would not let them teach the feared and hated Protestant.

James D. Eaton

Doubtless too my unchanging residence here for so long a time has had its effect. Confidence is here a plant of still slower growth than in the U.S. where the new minister does not have to encounter the tremendous oppsing force of a different religious inheritance and contrasted religious beliefs and practices, to say nothing of the racial and national distinctions. Some of the Methodist workers have expressed to me their sense of the great advantage we have, for gaining influence, in our not being moved from place to place, as they are.

The sentiment of the Prud.Com. in regard to my asking for leave of absence at my own charges next summer, which you were expecting to obtain, has not yet been reported to me. It would be convenient to know of it before I leave Mexico City; so, if not asking too much of you, I should be grateful for a line addressed to me in care of Rev.H.F.Hamilton, Apartado No.99, City of Mexico, Mexico. Mrs.Eaton generously gave me her tenth of salary, which was restored to her last summer by the ladies, with which to make the trip; and now a little while ago came fifty dollars most unexpectedly from a brother of hers in business in this country, with which she is able to plan to accompany me, especially for furthering the interests of the C.E.movement, she being the general secretary for this country; and if we go north in the summer, she will not be able to attend the next national convention, in Saltillo in July, and must enlist the special efforts of others as her substitutes.

We expect to leave on the 19th inst for the church dedication in Parral, reach Mexico City on Saturday the 23rd, and thus have three days before the "General Assembly" opens. That closes on the 31st Jan'y, and we may remain one or two days more in the City, to attend to some matters for which there will not be a moment's time during the long and numerous sessions of the great body.

Ever faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, Feb.5,1897.

Chihuahua Jan. 16. 97

Rev.Dr.C.H.Daniels,
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Daniels:-

Yours favors of the 13th and 23rd Jan. were both received after my departure for the assembly in Mexico City,-the second on the evening before I started on the home journey. I think I appreciate what you say as to the importance of taking great care before appointing one of another nation to be associated with us, and hope the Pru.Com. will be unusually solicitous in this case. I beg pardon if I erred in letting Miss Shera have a copy of the Manual to send to Mr.Lawson; I had supposed before, that any one was at perfect liberty to send that manual to any one else. But I wish to correct an important error into which you have fallen, doubtless through an interpretation of Mr.Lawson's words, to you, which he did not intend. I have not yet written one word to him, nor to Miss Shera either, which she could have quoted in hers to him; nor had I received any written word from him until last Monday night, when a letter came from him, in company with your last, dated Jan'y 9. It seems to me to be an unusually well written letter, and shows that if Mr.Lawson did not go to school much after he was "11 years of age", he found some other way to remedy the lack. Comparisons are odious, but I may be permitted to say, that Bro.Horace T.Wagner, who was sent here without suggestion from any one of us, is a man of excellent spirit, and promises to make a useful missionary, indeed he is doing work, (largely because he has a specially valuable helpmate,) but he cannot write the English language with correctness, since he did not use it until he was 17 years of age, and often leaves us puzzled as to the meaning he intended to convey. Messrs. Howland & Wright both spoke of this during our recent journey, without any knowledeg of what you had written. Mr.Howland spoke of him as being "a regular Dutchman in his notions." We voted to hold our annual mission meeting in Sonora, because we must examine things there for ourselves, buildings & work.

I doubt as well if Mr.Wagner will learn to use the Spanish correctly.

Perhaps my former letter to you failed to state that the proposal b Miss Shera and Mr.Lawson to enter upon work in connection with the Cong'l churches on this continent,[it did not make so much difference to them,whe north or south of the Rio Grande,] came to us as a great surprise. I had supposed,before,that the Board preferred to have offers come to it,rather that the initiative should be taken by the Board itself.

I shall try to write soon to Dr.Barton of the Assembly in Mexico Cit

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton

Chihuahua, Mexico.
Feb. 5. 1897

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 3-2-97
Ans'd 6

CHIHUAHUA, Feb.24,1897.

Rev.Dr.James L.Barton,
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

On the 18th January I wrote a letter of five full pages,to which no answer has yet been received. If it went astray,I can make for you a copy of the copy which I have here.

Of the "Second General Assembly of Christian Workers" held in Mexico City Jan.27-31,followed the next day by an excursion in special train over the new Cuernavaca railway, I cannot attempt to write in detail. Mr.Howland was to report for the "Independent",and I have sent brief accounts to the "Congregationalist" and "Advance", as Mr.Wright found he could not write for the last as I had requested him to do. I inferred from a note from Dr.Strong, that it was not worth while to write for the "Miss'y Herald",as an account could hardly be printed before the April number,a considerable time after the weekly periodicals would have made mention of the same event.

The essay on Self-Support was very kindly received by the brethren,many of whom expressed their appreciation afterwards; and it was requested for publication in the So.Methodist Quarterly,of Nashville. Today I have just completed the English translation of it for that purpose, having been obliged first to clear up some accumulated work,chiefly that of the mission treasurer.

But at the risk of appearing very egotistical,I will say that my chief work at the Assembly proved to be,not the presentation of the essay after all, but rather service on committees. There were only three appointed by the Assembly;one, of three members, to which was referred sundry communications; a second of seven members to consider the important question of the best Spanish version of the Bible; and a third, of three members, to prepare a statement for the public in reply to the calumnious charge that the missionaries are laboring to bring about a "peaceful annexation" of Mexico to the U.S., and that Mexicans who become Protestants, are traitors to their country. It so happened that I was made a member of each one of these, and chairman of the second. If the members had been named by a nominating committee, or even appointed all at the same time, doubtless I should not have been put on each one. I tried my very best to avoid being on the second, for two reasons, viz. [1] the Presbyterians had invited us Congregationalists to meet with them on Friday evening, at their girls' school building, to confer on important matters, one being the possibility of uniting in the support of a theological school, and the committee would have to do its work on that evening; [2] because there was so much difference of opinion shown regarding the question, that I anticipated a failure to agree on a report. Our session lasted for three hours. After the translator, H.B.Pratt, had made a statement to us, and the agent of the American Bible Society another, we were by ourselves. After a season of earnest prayer for the Divine guidance, and some familiar conference, it was proposed that each member of the committee write his opinion upon a sheet of paper and drop it into a hat that was upon the long table. These sheets were then drawn out by another person, son of a member of the com, and read aloud by him. We were much moved to find that all had expressed substantially the same ideas, viz. that the "Version Moderna" be adopted as a basis for our Spanish Bible, and that a committee of revision be appointed, to consist of a representative named by each one of the mission boards working this country, that might avail themselves of the opportunity, to go over this version most carefully, during a period of two or three years, preparing it for the press, and that Mr. Pratt the translator of that Version, be only a consulting, not a voting, member of the committee. It was only necessary after that, to shape our ideas more carefully in resolutions to be presented to the Assembly. The next morning, when the matter was called up, I requested the secretary of the committee, who was also secretary of the assembly, a talented Mexican, Rev. Justus M. Euroza, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to read our report; but first I called upon the influential Baptist member, Dr. W. D. Powell, (who planned that conference between Messrs./Moody and Sankey and the workers here, in Toluca two years ago). to tell the brethren how we had reached our result, and he said, amongst other things, "I confess that I wrote upon my slip of paper the exact opposite of the opinion I had entertained before our meeting". When the matter was put to vote, Rev. Dr. Sloan, the Baptist, who had read an able paper against the Pratt version, and in favor of the old one now generally circulated, and four or five Mexican Baptists voted in the negative, but all the rest in the affirmative. I hope that in some way it may be arranged for our Board to be represented in this work of revision. If a special worker cannot be named for this, I should favor appointing Mr. Howland as our representative, if his work in some other direction can be diminished for the purpose. It is estimated that the labor of revision will require two or three hours of each man's time daily, for perhaps two years; and then the workers would have to get together, for the larger part of another year, to put the work through the printer's hands.

On the third committee, the two able Mexicans did all the work; but on the first-named, though not chairman, I made the draft of result, or report, on the other important matter which came before the assembly for action. It came up through the reference to us of the paper by Dr. John W. Butler, on Comity between the different denominations at work in this country. The Baptists, to a man, said that they could not sign, or vote for, any such agreement as Butler proposed, (which was for substance, that in cities of less than 30,000 inhabitants, only one mission be allowed for the present,) nor indeed for any kind of a binding agreement. The chairman of our committee, a Mexican professor in their Biblical Institute, was a Baptist, but he agreed promptly to the report I proposed, of which the following is a translation: "Your committee apointed to report on the subject presented by Dr. Butler, would express their unanimous approval of the principles laid down by the writer of the essay, and even their desire to see adopted, in the main, the methods proposed for reaching the desired end; but in deference to the opinions of a respectable number of brethren, who say that they are not authorized to sign, nor even to vote for, an agreement such as that which has been suggested, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

“The Evangelical Workers, meeting in their second General Assembly, in the City of Mexico, respectfully, but with great earnestness, beg of all the missionary boards laboring in this country, that they come to an agreement among themselves as to the methods best adapted to the equitable and economical division of territory amongst the several missions, to the end that the gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ may be more speedily proclaimed to the entire people”.

One man proposed discussion of the report, but his motion was not seconded, and the resolution was adopted without a dissenting vote. It was my thought that, although we missionaries, on account of the Baptists, cannot reach an agreement on the subject, the boards in the U.S. which meet together in so fraternal a manner each year, to discuss Missionary methods, might reach a friendly agreement as to distribution of territory amongst their representatives in Mexico.

You may have heard that our mission has decided to hold its annual meeting, April 2 to 6th or 7th, in Sonora, in order to get better acquainted with that part of our xxxxxx field, and to decide what to do in the way of needed repairs to the mission buildings there.

I have not yet heard from you, whether the Prud.Com. would be likely to consider favorably an application, endorsed by the mission, for a three or four months' leave of absence the coming summer, at my own charges, beginning in time to attend the Golden Wedding of my parents in Roscoe, Ill, the 20th of May, and taking in the missionary meeting at Clifton Springs, (for the first time in my life), and the marriage of Mrs. Eaton's brother in Montclair, N.J. on the 17th of June. It is possible that the semi-centennial celebration at Beloit, my college, may detain me after the Golden Wedding.

Yours faithfully,

James D. Eaton

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

J. L. B.

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Rec'd 3-22-97
Ans'd

CHIHUAHUA, March 15, 1897.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Your favor of the 8th inst is at hand, but I take time now only to say that I should prefer not to have the Prud. Com. take any action at present in regard to a leave of absence for me, since I cannot know, until after the annual mission meeting, whether it will be best for me to be absent from the field at the time suggested. I think my original inquiry was, whether you knew of any reason why an application of the sort from me would not be favorably received at this time; and your kind reply indicated that you would ask the Committee. So I then awaited the answer. But your own personal expression is quite sufficient for my purpose.

Very truly yours,

James D. Eaton

Chihuahua, Feb. 24, 97

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

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J. L. B.
Rec'd 4-20-97
Ans'd 27

Chihuahua, Mex. 65, '97

CHIHUAHUA, April 14, 1897.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Your favor of March 17th, reporting the very kind action of the Prudential Committee in the matter of a leave of absence, reached me before I left home for the annual meeting in Sonora, where the Mission endorsed my application for such leave, without knowing of the action already taken in Boston.

Since my last writing to you, another reason has presented itself for a visit to the U.S. this season. Beloit College is to celebrate its semi-centennial the coming commencement, and it is desired that the address before the Christian Association, Sunday June 20th, be given this time by an alumnus, and if possible a missionary, in recognition of the service in the foreign field of so many of the alumni of that institution; and the Faculty has extended to me an invitation to represent the missionary contingent.

That same week occurs the commencement at Yale, and Mrs. Eaton will probably spend it with the New Haven ladies, who have asked for as much time as she can give them. If all goes well, we shall hope by the middle of the following week, June 30th or July 1st, to be with my brother, Dr. Samuel Lewis Eaton, in Newton Highlands, for a few days. I earnestly hope that nothing may occur to prevent my meeting you about that time, as I greatly desire to make the personal acquaintance of Dr. Clark's successor, with whom is conducted the official correspondence of this Mission. But perhaps it is not possible yet for you to say whether you are likely to be found in Boston about the date indicated.

You will receive the minutes of our late meeting from the new secretary, Rev. A. C. Wright, and I will not undertake now any discussion of action had at our gathering, since I may reasonably expect to have an opportunity to talk of some matters of interest to us all, face to face with you.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

J. L. B.
Rec'd 5-20-97
Ans'd
27

Chihuahua, Apr. 16, '97

Beloit, Wis, May 17. 1897.

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton,
Boston.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

We have reached this stage of our journey in safety, bringing with us happiest recollections of a notable week in Chihuahua, which included the annual meeting of the church and the graduating exercises of the girls' school, of which I have not time to write now.

The Rev. H. P. Hamilton, Agent of the Am. Bible Socy in Mexico City, and who with his wife are strong supporters of the "Union Evangelical Church" there, has asked me to put them into communication with any suitable person whom I may meet, with a view to

engaging him as their pastor. There
is a field for great usefulness
amongst the "Americans"; and
"Congregationalist is preferred",
since Presbyterians are in the
majority, & yet do not which to ha
the name of managing in the intere
of Presban. I thought at once
of Mr. N. Elsworth Lawson, of Grea
Britain, (with whom Dr. Daniels h
been in correspondence,) in case the
Board is not likely to appoint him
for financial reasons. He could
be studying the language & preparin
himself for Mexican Work later. A
married man without children
is desired, as salary is moderate.

Will you kindly inform me at
once of the probabilities, and make
any suggestion that may occur to
you in this matter? addressing
me in Roscoe, Illinois.

Yours as always.
James D. Eaton.

C. H. D.
ec'd
ns'd

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Roscoe, Illinois
~~Ill~~ June 1, 1897.

Rev. C. H. Daniels, D.D.
Boston,

Dear Dr. Daniels:-

Referring to my correspondence with Secy Barton relative to W. Elsworth Lawson, of Irvinstown, Ireland, - I have ventured to write to the Union Evangelical Church, Mexico City, suggesting that inquiries be made of you, if occasion offer, regard-

ing Mr. Lawson's quali
fications. For even
though testimonials
furnished the Board
are usually regard
as "confidential", yo
may feel at liberty in
the present case, to
furnish copies of su
documents as may
be in your possess
or at least to give
an idea of their gen
tenor.

I leave tomorro
for Chicago & Milwau
expecting to be in Cl

prings June 9-15, thence
o return to Beloit
emi-centennial, to
ive an address (not
n Mexico) before the
ollege Xn Association
n the First Church
unday A.M. June 20th

Faithfully Yours.
James D. Eaton.

Rev. James D. Eaton
Roscoe, Ill.
June 1. 1897

J. L. B.
Rec'd 6-30-97
Ans'd 7-7

Montclair, N.J. June 29/97

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

A reunion of the Pratt family (my wife's) in this place, to continue until the middle of July,- will prevent my going to Boston until after that time. Will you be visible at your office just after Sunday the 18th,- or within a day or two of that date, either before or after?

Last Sunday Mrs. Eaton gave an address in Dr. Bradford's pulpit in the morning, and I an illustrated lecture on Mexico at night.

Faithfully Yours,
James D. Eaton.

Rev. James D. Eaton, D.D.

J. L. B.
Rec'd 7-12-97
Ans'd 12

138

Montclair, N.J.
July 9, 1897.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Your favors of une 26th (via Newton ighlands,) and July 8th ame here today in company.

I greatly regret aving appeared to be ickle, and having put ou to extra trouble: er my plans have ad to be modified o suit the convenience f Mrs. Eaton's family

I can see you about July 26-28th
If more convenient for you, I could reach Boston by Friday noon, the 23rd Mrs. Eaton does not expect to accompany me further than Hartford.

As ever yours,
James D. Eaton.

e the members of
hich have had a nota-
e reunion here, after
interval of 22 years.
But it is now arranged
r me to go to Strat-
rd, Ct., July 20th. on
y way to Boston
xpecting to reach the
atter city on Sat. the
4th As yet I have
o engagement for Sun-
ay the 25th, but could
end it profitably
ith my brother, or
n the City, listening to
thers.
May I trouble you
address me here

J. L. B.
Rec'd 7-15-97
Ans'd

Montclair, N. J. July 14/97

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

In attention to your communication of the 12th inst., I have requested my brethren of the Mexico Mission to express their opinion as to the advisability of sending Mrs. Crawford, of Pomona, Cal., to fill temporarily the vacancy existing in the Sonora field, - so far as she may be able to do so.

Next Sunday night I am to speak in Belleville Ave. Ch., Newark, and on the Wed. following in Stratford, Conn (wife & I were in Bound Brook last Sunday), with the possibility of reaching Boston on Friday the 23rd. But in any case I will send word somewhat in advance of my arrival, as suggested.

Hoping that nothing may oc
further to delay my anticipat
visit to Boston, I remain
Ever yours faithfully
James D. Eaton.

140

O. H. D.
Rec'd 7-21-97
Ans'd

Montclair, N.J.
July 20, 1897.

Dear Dr. Daniels:-
Today I am
riting to the Union Evan-
lical Church in Mexico
ity, unhesitatingly ad-
ising that steps be taken
ward securing the ser-
vices of W. E. Lawson, whom
I welcomed at the
teamer wharf in New
ork last Saturday, and
hom we had with us
n our home here over
unday night.
Will you kindly

Rev. James D. Eaton

Montclair, N. J.

July 20. 1897

Rev. Jas. D. Eaton, D. D. 141

J. L. B.
Rec'd 8-3-97
Ans'd

Montclair, N. J.
July 31, 1897.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

The rain
f Thursday A.M. having
revented me from
alling to utter a formal
goodbye, I desire
again to express my
great gratification
at having been privileged
to make your personal
acquaintance, and to be

welcomed to your hom

Correspondence wit
you hereafter will be
still more highly pri
and we shall look fo
ward with the great
pleasure to the prom
ised visit from you

Please present
my kind regards to
Mrs. Barton, with
my earnest prayer
for her complete re
storation to health,
and greetings to
Howard and Maud

It is still my

lan to leave for home
Mexico about Aug.
h or 10th.

Ever faithfully yours,
James D. Eaton.

8-13 Rev. Jas. S. Eaton 142
13-97

Montclair, N.J.
Aug. 12. 1897.

v. C. H. Daniels, D.D.
Boston
ear Dr. Daniels:-

The Montclair
urch has voted to call
council for next Wed.
g. 18th. to ordain Mr.
E. Lawson, who made
very pleasant impres-
on last evening at the
id-week meeting.

sion?

I expect to start for Mexico Thurs. a.m. the 19th. Tomorrow I go to Bound Brook to attend the funeral of Miss Dunning's father. Please inform Dr. E. E. Strong of this.

Sincerely Yours.
James D. Eaton.

r. L. has a telegram
ng him to come to
xico City on trial, &
s replied favorably.
Now will you Kindly
d me a brief letter,
ich may be shown
the council (expressive
your opinion as to
capacity of Mr. L.
r such work, and
peating perhaps the
tement that lack of
nds will prevent,
r the present, his
pointment to fill

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Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Rec'd 10-11-97
19
Ans'd

CHIHUAHUA, Sept.21,1897.

Rev.James L.Barton,D.D.
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Several times have I been on the point of writing you,from Montclair,Chicago etc.,chiefly in regard to Mrs.Eaton's state of health. I waited in New Jersey until August 19th,hoping that Mrs.E. might be able to accompany me back,after a physician had had opportunity to treat her for a couple of weeks; but her friends of the New Haven Branch were very insistent that she should not return without making them a brief visit. So I started alone,telling Mrs.Eaton to take, her time,although she expected to come as far as Beloit,Wis. for Sept.14,with our son,for the opening of the college year. While I tarried a week in that vicinity,I was startled to learn that the physician advised an operation for a rupture of the perineum,and possibly another on the bladder, and said it would be "suicidal" for Mrs.E. to continue the active work she had been doing,in any event. This opinion,as to need of an operation,was shared by a physician in Beloit,to whom I showed my wife's "private" letter. It was thought that in three or four weeks she might be ready to undergo the ordeal,and then she would need three or four months in which to establish her health. What was I to do? Mrs.Eaton could not endure the idea of submitting to such a thing without having her husband at her side. Dr.Hitchcock in Chicago,was at first inclined to advise my waiting for her; but he approved my idea,to return to the work,straighten out accounts etc.,(rather than wait in Chicago and vicinity for several weeks,on an uncertainty,[for my wife was not sure that she could resolve to have any operation at all within a year or more],and then go back to Chicago if necessary for the operation,as the half ticket for round trip for me alone, traveling without Pullman, would be only about $50.00,or something like

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half of a month's salary. He agreed with me that probably the Board would rather assist me to that extent, if necessary, than to have me stay away longer, when there were many interests calling me here. So I came some three weeks ago, and now the physician consents to let my wife return without an operation, giving her medicine for two months to come, with the suggestion that she write later as to her symptoms, and get more. The doctor said Mrs. Eaton must have had a remarkable constitution and "a will of iron" to go through all she had been through for years past. In Meriden, Conn., she was obliged to decline invitation to address the ladies of the First and Central churches, but had extended conversations with the two pastors, especially with Ashur Anderson. In New Haven she tried to obtain release from the Branch, but all stoutly opposed her, saying that her presence and counsel here would be of great value, and further that they had no difficulty whatever in raising her salary, and that if her name were dropped, just so much less would probably be raised for the work.

Sunday Sept. 12 she spent with her cousin, Prof. Chas. F. Olney, of Pilgrim ch. Cleveland, O. and Mr. Mills persuaded her to speak at the Friday evening meeting; then she had to address the ladies on Saturday night, at a reception given in her honor in the Olney art gallery; Sunday morning she could not get out of addressing the whole Sunday School, including over 200 little folks between the ages of 7 and 10 years of age, and the C.E. Societies Sunday evening. It cost a great deal of strength, but she thought I would approve the expenditure for improving so rare an opportunity. She wrote me that she has never been so cordially received before, even by churches at home, where she was best known.

She was expecting to return here this week, and I still look for her soon, although delayed mails leave me a little in doubt.

Now it is plain that her work must be less than heretofore. Fortunately I secured the election of another as national secretary of C.E. in Mexico last July. But the pressing needs on the ground will be a constant temptation here. For one thing she ought not to play the reed organ here, pumping it with her

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feet, the doctor says; but as no one else plays it well, it will be excruciating for her to sit by and hear the congregation "drag", as well as trying for me. Cannot some friend be found to give us a larger need organ, which can be blown by a lever in the hands of a boy? The "duty" will amount to about five cents a pound U.S. money, and our silver dollars are now worth less than fifty cents each. But I rather think I could raise the money for freight and duty, amongst Mexicans and Americans, if the instrument could be given us.

My delay in the East was helpful to others, for it enabled me to secure the convening of a council to ordain Mr.W.E.Lawson, [the "Congregationalist's" item about it contained several errors] and to attend the funeral of Miss Dunning's father in Bound Brook, N.J. She came back here about two weeks ago.

Arriving at the station here at 3.30 A.M., two hours late, I was greeted by the officers of the Mexican church and C.E.Society, to the number of nine men who accompanied me to my house in three hired hacks, in great style!

It is a great disappointment to know that Mrs.Crawford after all cannot go to Sonora; Mrs.Wagner's state of health will not permit of their going for six months of the cooler weather, as the mission last April had hoped, and as you may remember to have heard from me when in Boston. Now comes a letter from the Mexican pastor of the M.E.Ch.South, in Guaymas, an active and ambitious man, asking me whether our mission board will not sell our entire property in Hermosillo to the M.E.church, saying, in Spanish, "Some prominent persons are interested to have the property belong to us, and will become members of our church, putting me in charge of the work. The Governor of the State and other gentlemen promise to pay the value of the property and help to support the minister. As you will comprehend, this signifies a step of triumph in the work, and you [plural] will not oppose yourselves to the progress of the gospel, whether under this or that denomination". He wants the answer as soon as possible, to present it at their next annual conference, Oct.6 or 7. I feel so disheartened about our non-occupancy, [by a missionary] of the capital, and that whole State, and no prospect of anything better for a year to come, that I am almost ready to consent to a transfer of our interests in that State to another body. But it would mean a permanent limitation of our work in Mexico, probably, as other workers are coming into the centers, and we could not do that,-i.e. enter later where others were at work. In Hermosillo we are entirely alone, and I think the So. Methodists deserve credit for not interfering with us during these last three years.

I must give some sort of an unofficial reply. What shall be its tenor?

As yet we know not how the fiscal year has closed with you.

Please remember me kindly to Mrs. Eaton and the young folks, and accept the sincere regard of

Yours faithfully,

James D. Eaton

ddress:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 10-1-97
Ans'd 19

CHIHUAHUA, Sept.24,1897.

Rev.James L.Barton,D.D.
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Referring to my letter addressed to you three days ago,and by way of introduction to an important matter,I will state,[what may have been mentioned to you already],that at the annual meeting of the mission held in Sonora the first of April,in view of the fact that there is no Am.miss'y of any denomination in that whole State at present,I suggested that the training school be suspended for one school year,in order to set Mr.Wright free to occupy the needy field. I asked him how many of our present students we should probably lose by such suspension,and he replied,"None whom it would be important to keep hold of". But the brethren,or the majority of them, feared that if the school were suspended for a time, it might be difficult to get permission from the Board to start it again,and a certain compromise was made, by voting to extend the period for practical work on the field by the students until the first of November,Mr.Wright of course overseeing their work and making trips with some of them.

Further it was voted,as you know,to ask the Wagners to spend six months of the cooler part of the year in Sonora,as they did last winter and spring.

When I saw Mr.Wright, on my way through El Paso the first of this month,he surprised me by proposing himself to suspend the school for a year,partly because at the present low price of silver the appropriation for the school would go farther in supporting the students in Mexico than ever before, and because last June's inundation in El Paso,which destroyed our native church building, had scattered the congregation to a great extent. He asked me what I thought of such a step,and said he would probably write to Mr.Howland,[the other member of the advisory committee on the school] in reference to the matter. I told him that on the whole I favored the idea. But today I have the following from Mr. Wright: " Dear Brethren of the Advisory Committee: In view of a letter received from Mr. Howland, in which he expresses a doubt whether the Board would permit us to use the school appropriation for the year, if we did not open the school, I have conccluded to return to the original plan, and open the school the first of November, unless you should advise to the contrary.. I ask your opinion in regard to Ignacio Lopez. As you remember, when he went to Sonora, it was somewhat against his desire, for he felt that he was of such age, that he would like to finsh his studies at once; but he was given to understand that he could return to the school this year, and he has been planning to do so. At the annual meeting it was planned to have the Wagners spend a part of the year there, which would make it easier for Ignacio to leave, but now they cannot go. What shall be done?, If he comes back, what will become of the work? On the other hand, how can we ask him to stay? It is time that we should decide upon something. I send a copy of this to each in order to hasten action."

I had already written to Mr. Howland, in answer to his inquiry, that it seemed to me the Board would not object to keeping the students in the field, with the idea perhaps of calling them together for a month or so at the end of the school year, May next, for the purpose of maintaining something of an organization, and getting from them reports of their work, and habits and results of study during the time of their separation one from another. Even so the school would actually be in session for five months of 1897 and four months of 1898, or five months of the latter year, if they met for a month next May.

It would help us very much if you would write to us your own impressions. And in order to save time for Mr. Wright, who wants to call the students in time for them to make the journey from their distant locations, it would be well to address him first. I know that it is a good deal to asg you to give thought to this on the eve of the Board's meeting, but the importance of the case seems to warrant it.

As ever yours
James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 10-1-97
Ans'd 19

CHIHUAHUA, Sept. 25, 1897.

Chihuahua, Sept 24, 97

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.

Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Referring to my letter of the 21st inst, in relation to the importance of getting an organ that can be blown by some one other than the organist, - I fell into an error in stating the amount of "duty" imposed on musical instruments, giving you the charge on furniture, [which I had just been paying, and which made the duty here, reduced to gold, very nearly equal to the first cost in New York], which is twenty cents per "kilogram", or about five cents gold per lb. But the duty on pianos and organs is fifty cents per kilogram, or say, twelve cents per lb. in gold. Therefore the duty on an organ weighing 600 or 800 lbs. would be $150 to $200 in our money, or about one-half that in gold; plus the freight we should have to raise, as proposed in my letter. But a gentleman friend of my brother-in-law in New York has on two occasions obtained for us transportation free of all charge on barrels of clothing for needy people here; possibly he might help with the organ.

Mrs. Eaton telegraphs me that she has reached El Paso, but water has played havoc with the Mexican Central R.R. north of here, so that it is thought by some that the road cannot be open again for the running of trains for a week to come. This letter, like mine to you of yesterday, will start south and enter the U.S. over the International R.R. at Eagle Pass.

Today I received Treas. Wiggin's statement, and am somewhat relieved that the debt is no greater. Mrs. Eaton and I have been greatly pleased with the "Congregationalist's" editorial on "The Presidency of the Board".

Praying for a large blessing to be given us at New Haven, I am

As ever yours, James D. Eaton

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J. L. B.
Rec'd 1-24-98
Ans'd 26

Hermosillo, Sonora, Mex.
Jan. 17. 1898.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

You may have wondered at my long silence, and it does seem to myself almost inexcusable. The simple facts are (1) that just after your last letter of Oct. 19 came to hand, a motion was made requesting me to spend a month or so in this State, in the interests of our work, and I delayed writing until the matter should be settled. 2) After sending away my type-writer be remodelled, I had the second fin-er of the right hand disabled by an ccident, which prevented making much use of a pen for several weeks.) Through some remissness, the nanimous wish of the mission as not made known to me until

a few days before Christmas. Then w
the extra work at the close of the ye
besides having two guests over the
holidays, it was nearly impossibl
to communicate with you, althou
my thoughts were traveling towar
you almost daily, as my wife c
testify. At length I left home
just after beginning the Week of Pray
(with a most cheering attendanc
and interest on the part of the Chi
nese congregation,) so as not to m
the date of my return too far int
the new year, since Mr. Wiggin w
be awaiting my semi-annual b
ance sheet.

And even now I do not feel l
recording items of interest belon
to the past three months, until
can enjoy the means of copyin
my letter.

There are rather more featur
of encouragement connected w
the field here, than I had expec

find after the long interval, of almost
tal suspension since Mr. Crawford's
ath; and before my visit here, my
sociates of the Mission had expressed
emselves as a unit against sur-
ndering the field to the So. Methodists.
Presiding elder J.C. Corbin (who lives in
Paso) traveled with me south from
gales, Arizona, on his way to Guaymas and Mazatlan, and, informing
e that their Board had been
ccessful in liquidating their debt,
aid that he thought they might be
le to buy our property here, if the
o Boards agreed, and that in
nt of this transaction's being ef-
cted, they would locate two Am^{n}
issionaries in the State, one here
the capital, and the other in the
xican Nogales. Within the past
r new water-works and electric
hts have been introduced into this
n, and the first bank of the State
s been formed, authorized to issue

its bills to the extent of $750,000.00

Doubtless the So. Methodists would cept Chihuahua, Parral. Fuerte, as they make a specialty of Mexican wor but there seem to be the same reason substantially, for our holding on to t point, (where our work is the onl one so far) as for continuing to occupy the others, if the Board can s fill the vacancy in our ranks.

But the cutting down of our ver small appropriation for general wor by the sum of about $1,000 Mex. th year 1898, puts a serious face upon matters. The El Paso school could scarcely be cut further, & exist. T native preachers *now* average only o and a fraction to each missionar (two of us now have not a single man to direct). Under the circumstances I expect to advocate, at ou near annual meeting, the suspen of the school, which nevertheless i our only one exclusively for boys a

ung men, who~~at~~ in the governmental
hools are so easily led away into
fidelity.

I felt much strengthened by your
inion that the appropriation for the
hool would have been available for
e support of the students in practical
ork; but it came too late (owing to
tention of my letter by washouts) to
revent the students being summoned
ack to school.

The native brethren here raised
oney before my coming to pay for
o notices daily, like the enclosed,
our extra meetings for a week;
d we have been cheered by the
esence of new hearers, besides the
rtainty that many people, who
ever thinking of crossing our thresh-
ld, would thus be informed of
r doings, and know that we are
ot dead.

Mrs. Eaton is doing far more work
an she ought to, even playing the

organ more than half of the time,
Spanish and English services. An A
can in our city, who has dealt in org
for years, sees no way to attach
lever to our instrument.

We all rejoiced in the good ne
from the New Haven meeting, a
trust that with the advance of t
year, our beloved Board ma
ceive stronger support pecuniar
and not be compelled to give f
ther orders to retreat.

I hope to be back in Chihuahu
by the first Sunday in Feb. A
going to Torreon and La Colora
this afternoon, for a week.

Very Sincerely Yours,
James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

4-22-98
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CHIHUAHUA, April 16, 1898.

Rev.Dr.James L.Barton,

Boston,

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Doubtless you have wondered somewhat at my long silence. The fact is that I have felt almost overwhelmed with responsibilities since my return from Sonora. The absence of a month threw me very much behind in my work, and I was only beginning to see my way out, when the annual meeting drew on, with its fresh demands, followed by a little extra work for Mr.Olds in Parral and other unexpected matters in this city. Fortunately I have kept well, although often feeling a little jaded; but Mrs.Eaton warns me, and some others, that unless I reduce the number of my working hours, I may expect another breakdown. But it is so hard to know at what point to retrench!

But I did not intend to write about myself, nor of the work in general at this time, but only to keep my promise to Miss M.L.Hammond, to write to yoo about her need of more complete rest and better care, for the coming summer, than she could probably obtain in this country. The Mission endorses, (doubtless it will prove to be with entire unanimity when the returns are all in by mail,) her application for permission to cross the line into the U.S. for the summer vacation in our school. I believe her present thought is to spend much of the time with a friend in Phil'a, perhaps taking some simple treatment. Her condition of health is somewhat critical, although Dr.Emerson Warner, of Worcester, Mass., who was here a short time ago, encouraged me to think that the trouble might disappear in the course of a few years more, and he did not favor an operation at present.

She expects to make the journey at her own charges, and we earnestly hope that her strength may be sustained for years to come, to continue in the work in which she is so useful. Will you kindly write me if the Prud.Com. is willing for Miss H. to do as proposed, with the endorsement of the mission, to be conveyed later through the secretary.

As ever yours,
James D. Eaton.

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Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreingn Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 5-2-98
Ans'd 6-3

CHIHUAHUA, April 26, 1898.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston,

Dear Dr. Barton:-

How much nearer home I am now as a "foreign" missionary, than when I was distant from New York from ten days to two weeks, according to the state of the roads, having my home in Portland, Oregon! Your letter of the 21st, postmarked at 6 P.M., reaches this city at 11 P.M. of the 25th, and is read by me this morning! The same thing occurred with the last letter from Mr. Wiggin.

As to the Council in Portland, - the clerk of the church there wrote me some time ago, taking it for granted that I would attend the gathering; and it would certainly be interesting all around, for me to meet there Dr. Bradford of Montclair with whom I arranged the transcontinental exchange of pulpits in the year 1874, which led to my forming the life partnership with Miss Gertrude Clifford Pratt who had just then returned to M. from her year and a half in Europe. "Gertrude" insists that I ought to go; but I think that the rich experiences of three years ago, when it was my privilege, as the only former pastor present, to assist in the dedication of the new house of worship, and by special invitation of the church, must suffice, and I have no thought of asking leave to return to the U.S. for the sake of attending the sessions of the council.

Chihuahua, Apr. 16,'98

Concerning the war with Spain, - some of the ill natured criticisms of the U.S. which have appeared in a few of the periodicals here, have not been pleasant reading, and the basis of justice which some of them have had, in the unworthy speech and behavior of certain members of Congress, has not made it any easier to bear. There is so much jealousy of the wealth and power of the U.S., "the great colossus of the north", so many of whose citizens too are occupying the "fat" places in mining and R.R. companies here, - and whose "invasion" of Mexican tarritory has never been forgotten nor forgiven,-that it is not strange that, while most Mexicans desire to see Cuba free, they are not willing to have the U.S. secure that freedom for her. The sewing-teacher in our school, who has always shown the greatest friendliness, and has never been anything of a "fanatic" in her religion as a R.Catholic, thinks that Cuba might be left to obtain her own freedom, "as Mexico did". A Spanish Gentleman, manager of the Chihuahua branch of the Mexican National Bank, and with whom I have a bowing acquaintance, only last week, after the "ultimatum" was sent to Spain, subscribed $2,000 to aid that country, and his wife, daughter of a very influential Mexican gentleman in this city, gave $500 at the same time. The newspapers say that Pres't Diaz has ordered troops to various points on the frontier, in order to prevent any raiding across the border into the U.S. by Spaniards or their sympathizers. Our American newspaper here wisely counselled our countrymen to avoid disputes and conflicts in the liquor saloons. Almost all "Americans" here are drinking men, and there is great danger of unseemly occurrences, which may accentuate the feeling against the "Yankees", as Mexicans denominate us all, even the Texans; which is rather a good joke on the former confederates! Personally I do not at present anticipate suffering any serious inconvenience or hindrance to our work on account of the war; but this may depend in part on the appearance of good faith with which the U.S.gov't observes the spirit of the fourth resolution, which declares greatly to my satisfaction, that it does not seek to acquire political control over Cuba, but only to set the people free.

About the appropriation for "horses".-you are correct in supposing that it is for the purpose of aiding in touring work. Nothing of the sort was asked for one of the stations, Guadalajara, because the missionary does his traveling by rail, so far as he cannot by his useful bicycle. For next year, we have asked for help in keeping a horse for the native who will be in charge of the Guerrero circuit, as soon as the Wagners leave for Sonora. At most of the stations, the expense of keeping a horse is about double the appropriation asked for, $50 Mex, just for feeding and shoeing, the missionary doing the stable work. Indeed we used to ask for, and receiwe, $100, for this purpose, but the financial straits of the Board for some years past, decided us to help a little more ourselves. The stage fare from here to Guerrero and return, which point I shall try to visit twice a year at least, as I used to do years ago, before a missionary was stationed there, is $24.00 for one person. Mrs. Eaton used to accompany me usually, and did most valuable service amongst the women. Many times in the course of a year do I take her, or send her with some one else, in the buggy to make some wisit which she could not accomplish, except by paying a Mexican hack 50¢ to $1., the houses being too far from the center for her to walk. Furthermore, in all cases save one the missionary himself bought the horse, (and some in this way have lost considerable money); and the exception, Mr. Bissell, felt he could not afford to pay the whole cost, $150 for an American horse, and so we helped him from the appropriation for touring, to the extent of one-half. Also, in all cases but one, the conveyance was paid for by the missionary. Duty and freight pretty nearly double the cost in the U.S., and the hot sun and dry air are very destructive of the buggy or wagon. The exception was made in the case of Mr. Wright, when he was asked to take the Cusi. and Guerrero field, which would require a great deal of driving about, and he, newly arrived on the field, -less than two years before, -did not feel able to make the necessary purchase. That buggy is now on the same field, in use by Mr. Wagner. I suppose you are aware of the salaries paid to the Pres. missionaries, -$750 to a single lady, instead of the $500 net to one of ours; $1,500 to a childless married couple, instead of the $1,000 asked by us, -$900 actually received. I take a possibly pardonable pride in having our figures so much lower than theirs, and only wish it were practicable to make them still lower. We cannot approve of such proceedings as we witness, for example, in the Southern Meth.

school for girls and boys in this city: seven American women employed, besides some native assistants. Of these women, the teachers who are engaged by the year, receive $500, but the "missionaries" have $750; and one of these missionaries does not teach a class, not even in the Sunday School, and attends but few of the religious services, except the school family prayers. She looks after the boys in the boarding department, and acts as private secretary for the lady principal.

It is scarcely less than disgraceful that you have heard so little of us and our work during the past winter: and I am aware that my explanations given in part, in the letter from Sonora last January, & in one since, do not excuse myself. It ought to be said, however, that Mrs. Eaton has faithfully sent, every month, to the New Haven ladies, full accounts of events occurring here, and that our lady teachers, and she herself to some extent, have been writing to Mrs. Means. It is to me one of the infelicities of the present division of labor between the men and the women, that so much of the work done, in the way of correspondence, is so limited in its influence at home. And while I realize that information concerning the field and the work is indispensably necessary to you who have the direction of all, it does sometimes seem to us here, when we are straining every nerve to do more than mortal man ought to attempt, almost an injustice to be required to take the strength to write of what we are trying to do, in order to stir up the American Christians to give even a small part of what they owe to their Lord's work.

If you have not already done so, you will probably receive very soon the several written reports from the stations and out-stations connected with our work. As a whole they seemed to me, when read at the annual meeting, to have been prepared with somewhat more of care than on former, similar occasions; and there was generaly expressed a wish to have them printed, after being edited. Such a step will naturally tend to their further improvement in coming years. Amongst my own "out-stations" I was obliged to include the points occupied in Sonora, for lack of a missionary there. My report of the visit made there in January last was put into writing for the sake of both greater accuracy and at the same time of brevity. Although you may not be particularly interested in the account of the investigation of charges against the character of our native helper stationed in that region, part of the same report makes allusion to the encouragements met with there for continuing our work begun by Mr. Crawford. My general report also of course touches upon the same field; and the Mission felt that, notwithstanding the importance of the "sierra field", (where we have a peculiarly open door, and where Protestantism is stronger in proportion to the population, than in any other part of our field in Mexico, and to which work the Wagners have become very much attached,) it was best to hold Sonora, designating the Wagners to that State. Without an exception all felt it important to hold on to the work begun there. One or two did ask Mr. Bissell whether he would be willing to give up Sinaloa, for the sake of occupying Sonora. But although he admitted that the material conditions would be more favorable for his family in Hermosillo, on a railroad, than in his remote place of residence, and that he had a far more favorable opinion of the Sonora field now than heretofore, (I might instance the time when Dr. Daniels was with us), he still felt exceedingly reluctant to abandon the work in Fuerte and vicinity, and would feel very much bereaved if he were obliged to leave there. Some others felt also that perhaps Mr. Bissell does not possess just the qualities needed for a wise and effective grappling of the conditions existing in Sonora, and so that matter was not pursued further.

Any argument for abandoning Sonora, would be a fortiori an argument for leaving Sinaloa. And the mere fact that the So. Methodists would take Sonora, if we would give it to them, does not seem to us a sufficient reason for abandoning that part of our field, any more than a similar willingness to accept our work in Chihuahua and other important points, would convince us that we ought to retire. Indeed, it might be said at this juncture, that perhaps Congregationalists may have a peculiar mission to perform in Mexico, -at least as regards some of those connected with the So.Meth.church. Thus, although I was requested to say nothing of it to any one besides our missionaries at the annual meeting, with a petition that they say nothing of it to any outsiders, I may certainly inform you regarding what was written to me, on the eve of my departure for Sonora, by Rev.Domingo F. Acosta, who was once sent as missionary to Caraccas, Venezuela, and served two extended terms as pastor of the M.E.Ch., South, in this city, but who is now in Guaymas. He wrote, in Spanish, "During my stay in this field I have visited, as you will remember, Hermosillo, Torres, Minas Prietas, Ortiz and other places of less importance. To my regret I have not continued these visits, for reasons of which you are aware.x x Very well, if it be not possible for you to send a missionary to those places, and if you appreciate my humble labors, I am very ready to join myself to you, previously presenting a recommendation from the authorities of my church. I hope therefore you will inform me concerning the conditions under which I may be admitted, and meanwhile I beg you to consider this confidential".

After I wrote you from Hermosillo, being so near to Guaymas, I visited it at my own charges, and had a long interview with Señor Acosta. It would require a long letter to report that only. You may possibly have hard something of the revolt of a few preachers against the authority of the M.E.Ch, South, -they showing something, I imagine, of the spirit of certain of the Japanese. Our mission did ot think it best to meet the advances of Acosta, and I did not recommend them to o so, although I had felt that, rather than abandon at once that field, I would avor making a trial of Acosta, believing that within a year he would collect most f his salary on the ground. He receives $35 gold from the Board and $30 silver rom his congregation per month, making at present rates of exchange about $600 old per year. He is very energetic and zealous, but too much inclined, especially nder his church system, to do a superficial work, in order to have as many names o report as possible of persons received into the church during the year. hose disaffected preaches in Mexico City and vicinity are publishing a paper of their own, full of criticisms of the So.M.E.missionaries especially, and they are organizing a few independent congregations, trying to establish a "Mexican Evangelical Church". One American is working with them, our former missionary, D.F.Watkins, who was after many years thrust out by the So.Methodists. Last Wednesday the 20th nist, I received from Mr.Wright copy of a letter written him by Presiding Elder J.F.Corbin, in which he informs us that Acosta has formed an independent church, with thirty of his members, and will try to hold on to the church edifice in Guaymas which was built by the So.Meth.board. Corbin says that he has sent another Mex. preacher there, but that it will cost considerable of time and money to oust Acosta. He speaks of Acosta's having promised to organize a church in Hermosillo, or La Colorado, or both, and thinks we might have trouble with him in the latter place, should some try to get the chapel away from us, which is built on mining company's land, and to which we have not a clear title. (It was not built with funds furnisted by our Board).. Our helper, Lopez, however, thinks there is no danger at present of any cooperation with Acosta in such a way. However, it seemed to me wise to ask Lopez not to leave for Batopilas, to which he has been appointed, until his successor should arrive on the ground. I suggested to Wagner that perhaps he might move over there before the autumn, even if he had to retire during the extreme summer heat, to Nogales on the border; and he telegraphs me that e will start in two weeks.

Of course we wish to avoid taking any advantage of our Meth. brethren; but do think that our polity would be far more congenial to them, were they acquainte ith it, than is the episcopal system administered by bishops from the U.S. whose uthority is rather galling to them. One Meth. lay brother, who read our little ong'l Manual, said that it was just the free ecclesiastical system which he had een looking and longing for. I wrote to Lopez, amongst other things, "Oh that we ight see established a great many evangelical churches amongst the Mexicans, holly supporting themselves, without any foreign aid! Only I do not like the idea of forming a new denomination. They might call themselves independents, like the primitive chuhches, and afterwards associate themselves together in a fraternal way as Christians, without calling themselves either "national", or provincial, as "Southern Methodists" .

This letter is sufficiently voluminous, and yet I have treated only one of eleven topics which I had jotted down on a slip of paper, after reading your message, as of interest to you. Some things will have to wait till another time. But I thought it advisable to enter quite fully into particulars regarding a movement of which you may know little, and yet regarding which you may be in a position to give us some valuable advice , if not now, at a later date.

Please tell us what we are to do with regard to meeting the expense for rent and repairs for missionary residences. I observe that this year the W.B.M. has declined to raise the nine per cent addition, $45.00 on the $500, for the purpose. In Guadalajara, e.g. we have been paying $30 Mex. monthly for the Howlands' residence, and $20. for the lady teachers, as their share, out of this fund, asking the home societies to raise directly for the girls' school only $30 out of the 50 monthly, which we are paying as rent for the school building where the lady eachers live with their scholars. There is a manifest injustice in varying he nominal salaries , when the net salaries are precisely the same for all of our issionaries, male and female. And if the W.B.M. continues to decline paying this ddition, either the Am. Board will have to make an appropriation to meet it directy, or the W.B.M. do this, or the per centage added to the salaries of the rest ill have to be increased, and thus the Am. Board and the W.B.M.I. will be obliged o raise more than their share, to meet the expense for rents and repairs of proprty, in an indirect way.

You may possibly have noticed in the "Christian Endeavor World" for Feb. 10th, n the series of "All Around the World of C.E.", my article, which I was asked by rof. Wells to prepare, to represent Mexico.

Faithfully Yours,
James D. Eaton

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Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 5-3-98
Ans'd 6-3

CHIHUAHUA, April 27, 1898.

Rev. James L. Barton,
Boston,

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Allow me to add a postscript to my long letter of yesterday, in regard to the possible effect of the war upon our work in Mexico. We have been so long accustomed to read and hear expressions of unfriendliness toward Americans, especially on the part of the Roman Catholic Church party, who of old have charged us with being in league with our government to bring about a "peaceful annexation" of Mexico to the U.S., that we did not at first think of the trouble with Spain as likely to augment seriously the difficulty with which we have to contend as missionaries to a people who were conquered by our countrymen in '47.

But your letter set me to thinking and inquiring. The very next mail brought a letter from our faithful deacon, Felipe, now stationed in Jimenez, & who in the past has willingly consented to be called "yankeefied" by those who would twit him with being too friendly with the Americans. He writes: "I am sorry that war has broken out between the U.S. and Spain; I do not like it". I have talked with several German business men of prominence, to learn what intelligent Mexicans of their acquaintance are thinking. One cited the case of Sr. Barrera, at the head of the internal revenue dep't in this city, and whom I know quite well; (only last week I received a most grateful letter from his brother, comandante of custom house guards for one of the federal zones, whose son I introduced to Iowa State University;) and Sr. Barrera, while opposed to the Spaniards, did not like to have the U.S. undertake "this war for annexation;" he did not believe the declaration in the 4th resolution of Congress, viz. that our gov't did not seek to acquire sovereignty in Cuba. All the Germans believe that, after sustaining a gov't in Cuba for some time, the U.S. will come to occupy it permanently.

Last evening I procured copies of two leading dailies of Mexico City. One of them in large head lines cries out "Alerta! compatriotas! Look out for the Anexión Pacífica", and then it proceeds to berate the authorities for granting so many favorable concessions in a business way to the northern neighbors, and to warn Mexican business men not to hold such friendly relations with those who are gaining so strong a foothold here. The other, "El Universal" a liberal organ, which circulates veey largely amongst the best men here, is publishing a continued article on the history of the doings in connection with the Texas war and annexation, in order to remind Mexicans of what the Americans have done and are likely to do again when they get the chance. This instalment consists of more than two long columns, from which I translate one choice bit for your meditation: "When deeds of this sort, performed by fervid puritans, come to be known, no one ought to be surprised that, during the latest delibeeations of the American congress, a chaplain besought the Almighty to enlighten the minds of the representatives and senators, in order that they might be better able to accomplish the act of extreme injustice of despoiling Spain of Cuba. Phariseeism joined to an unbridled covetousness, is the distinguishing characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon race".

One German said that the Spaniards were "fools" enough to make raids over the border into the U.S., when excited by some unfavorable news of the war; said that ten or twelve of them would be capable of going over from Ciudad Juarez to attack Americans in El Paso, if permitted by the authorities, and so the Mexican president had felt obliged to order troops to the frontier to guard the peace.

From these facts you are able to judge as well as I, perhaps better, owing to your outside position, what may be the effects of the war upon our work. In the past we have sometimes remarked that we wished there might be some evangelical Christians besides Americans to undertake the work in this country; but I do not see who else can be expected to do it. Yours as ever,

James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 5-17-98
Ans'd

CHIHUAHUA, May 11, 1898.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

In accordance with instructions received from the Mission at its last annual meeting, held in Parral in the closing days of March, I desire to present, through you, to the Prudential Committee a request that the needs of Mexico be considered in connection with the further distribution of the "Tank Legacy", which, we understand, was intended to be devoted in part to the development of the work in Papal Lands. We rejoice to know of the grant in aid of tha International Institute for Girls in Spain, and we hope that your "next door neighbor" will not be overlooked.

Two special objects were designated by the Mission as worthy of your attention: (1) the acquisition of property to serve as a residence for the missionary family in Guadalajara, that has been compelled to move about a dozen times in the course of sixteen years, (Miss Long said to me that it was "twenty times", but I think that somebody lost the count !), at great loss of valuable time, and involving large expenditure of nervous vitality. The Howlands are again facing the dread necessity of change, and spending in house-hunting the energy for which there is so urgent a call in many other directions. Keeping pace with the material devolopment of the country, realestate values in Guadalajara are rising, and the situation of our missionary family promises to grow worse, instead of better, unless the Board be prepared to pay greatly increased rentals.

(2), The other thought of the Mission was, that soon it may become very desirable to provide for housing our Training School on Mexican soil. True, at present we are allowed the free use of the building in El Paso, Texas, which was erected by the New West Ed. Commission, when that society was in equal partnership with the American Board for educating Mexican youth, and when the Home Missionary Society was expected to cooperate to some extent. But now it seems to be an anomaly for the Board to be educating preachers and teachers for Mexico on American soil; the new Chihuahua and Pacific R.R., which is in active construction westward from this city, is soon to bring our stations on the west coast into closer communication with the central region, (removing the necessity of our making a long detour through New Mexico and Arizona in order to reach them:) and we may find it to be advisable to locate the school either in Ciudad Guerrero, or in Parral, (to which point also a branch railroad is now building), when the local missionary, in either place, could cooperate with the director of the school in giving instruction, and the students would be within easy reach of numerous congregations and favorably disposed communities, as they are not at present. But I was not commissioned to argue this point, as to the exact location of the school. I was only asked to present the objects for your consideration, and in the order above given.

The Mission felt it to be proper to call attention to the fact, that of the six ordained men holding at present the commission of the Board in Mexico, three were educated at Beloit College, which is located in the State from which the Tank legacy came, and one of whose graduates is the trustee of the same legacy.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

In behalf of the Mission to Mexico,

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton.

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd
Ans'd 7-7-98

CHIHUAHUA, June 29, 1898.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston,

My dear Dr. Barton:-

I am glad to know, by your favor of the 3rd inst, that my voluminous epistle, (and its supplement the following day), was of use to you. I hardly know how to answer your question in regard to Mr. Wagner. If he has not received due recognition from the mission, the failure was not occasioned by a deliberate intent to ignore him. He manifests the spirit of a devout, self-denying Christian, and is ready for every good work, and so far as I know, has been diligent in the use of his opportunities. In one respect I was a little disappointed in him at the annual meeting in Sonora a year ago; he failed to vote on so many matters that were up for discussion. It may have been due to feelings of modesty, but that explanation did not after all seem to meet the case. When our numbers are so few, I think that all ought to be ready to express their convictions. Then, too, he made one or two suggestions that seemed rather wild, e.g. that the boarding schools for both girls and boys, together with the printing of "El Testigo" and the mission treasurer's office, (with the pupils as type-setters and clerks for the treasurer(!), be massed at El Paso, Texas. That might have passed for a good joke, in view of some of the difficult problems that were presented, but he proposed the step in all seriousness. In certain directions, however, I think he shows great good sense. But at the best he seems a little like a foreigner to us, -a "Dutchman", as Mr. Howland once remarked. Perhaps you know that he did not learn to speak English until he was seventeen years of age. You have yourself seen his letters; sometimes when we receive a communication from him treating of business matters, we find ourselves unable to make out his meaning. Of course in the Spanish it is worse, owing to his failure to be exact.

and I regret to have him taken by educated Mexicans to be a representative Am. missionary in his writing. Only this month, having occasion to write both to a Presbyterian home missionary in Bisbee, Arizona, and to a Mexican preacher-student in Cumpas, Sonora, (who was educated under the patronage of the former in New Mexico, and who has aroused a deep interest amongst his fellow-townsmen, and who last winter appealed to me to come to his help,) I spoke in terms of most cordial appreciation of Mr. Wagner's character and usefulness, (he being now put in charge of that region), but I felt it prudent to mention the fact that he did not learn to speak English until he was a young man, so that his written communications, before they should come to know him personally, might not give them an unfavorable impression.

You have seen in the minutes the report which I made of the results of the examination of Mrs. Wagner in the vernacular. Our deliverances at the two preceding annual meetings in regard to Mr. W's attainments in the Spanish, were not flattering, as you will find by referring to the documents. But no good results have followed, so far as we can see. We have been unable to make our friend see the necessity of obtaining a good teacher and of being rigidly criticised. He has a certain sort of fluency, manifesting itself in a rapid utterance, rather than in the use of a copious vocabulary, which is almost fatal to exactness. So it is impossible to say, often, whether he means, in the case of the past participle, to make it terminate in "o" or "a", and of course it is the same way with his adjectives. This blurring of the last vowel is sometimes resorted to by uneducated Americans, who are unable as a rule to remember what substantives are masculine and which feminine. Mexicans are quick to catch our meaning, and those especially who regularly attend our services, grow accustomed to our peculiarities in the use of their language. Doubtless many are impressed by Mr. Wagner's rapidity of utterance, and the Mexicans are quick to flatter, and the very fact that he is understood by those who know him best, may incline him to thenk he has a sufficient knowledge of the language for all practical purposes. He did not this year come under the Handbook's rule for examination, but last year my wife and I advocated the adoption of some plan for the examination of all the missionaries, and the committee was requested to provide for this, if possible. It would be far more instructive and effective, if we might get together most of the wives of the missionaries, and as many as possible of the lady teachers, (and not simply one of these to "represent woman's work"), as is provided for by the Presb. Bd. with reference to its workers in this country, and as our old "Northern Mexico Mission" used to have it arranged, under Dr. N. G. Clark.

I shall have now to take the oversight of Mr. Wagner's late field, visiting it so far as I may be able, even at the cost of neglecting to a greater extent some other branch of the work, -until the Board can supply that vacancy. Some of us tried to get Mr. Bissell to see that it would be advisable for him to move to Hermosillo, and give up Sinaloa, if the Board could not give us now the new man. He admitted that the work in the State of Sonora now looked to him far more promising than it did before, and that he had "a real good time" holding meetings there on his way to our annual gathering, and further, that he would be far more "in the current" of active life there, where there is the railroad, electric lights, a great new bank, (there was none before in the entire State), factories going up etc., than where he is. But he gave us to understand that he would feel deeply "bereaved" if he had to abandon Fuerte and vicinity, and we said no more about it. But Miss Burris has come in from Batopilas, on her way to the great convention of Sunday School workers, Christian Endeavorers etc. which meets next week in Toluca, and she says that when she went to Fuerte last summer, for a respite, she found a decayed town, -as I had supposed, -with comparatively few houses plastered on the outside, that rented by our missionary being one of the best in the place, and a Sunday congregation of about twenty people, of whom only one, I think she said, was a man. Mrs. Bissell admitted to Miss B. that it was discouraging, and that she felt sometimes that they "had been sweeping over a rock, and could not gather up anything more." But as the Bissells spent several years in La Barca, State of Jalisco, without gathering any congregation at all, that could be depended upon, (their own family and the servant being often the only attendants at Sunday services,) doubtless the present circumstances seem almost grandly successful to Mr. B. by comparison. The church and congregation at the out-station of Batopilas, (which I am compelled to oversee from here, without going there, as it is a journey of eight days each way, six on mule back, fare regularly, $50.00 each way), is much larger than the company of believers in Fuerte, and Miss Burris says that they (while belonging to the laboring class), "seem like rich people in comparison with those of Fuerte." Miss B. is especially kind in all her observations, and my wife and I observe how ready she is to make excuses for people, when appearances seem to be against them, as regards the native preacher and the asst. teacher in Batopilas, and the missionary in Fuerte, and others. I think that all of us might with profit imitate more closely her example; and I hope you will not think for a moment, that I am indulging in any ill-natured criticism of Bro. B. and his work. I was led on to speak of it, by your question about Mr. Wagner, who is now on the field that some of us thought possibly Mr. Bissell might cultivate, though others were doubtful of his adaptability to that region. I have wanted him to visit B. regularly, as he is but four days distant, and makes a specialty of touring, not only on wheels, but in the saddle; but so far I have not been able to accomplish this although he did go there once, to aid in the organization of the church, and he admits that in his vicinity the people are acustomed "to look up to Batopilas".

He writes me, under date of the 20th June: "We are busy arranging for departure for a time to higher ground, (their little house in the wild sierras, J.D.E.). Perhaps I mentioned that Miss Miller, fearing the ill effects of the rather rough journey, -a trip in saddle, ~~-remains~~ here and at ranches, the homes of pupils, where quite a little relief is found, as to heat".

I note your suggestion to "charge back" any sums paid for rent on account of accommodations for lady missionaries whose support is assumed by the W.B.M.

I am glad that you think it unlikely that the Board will make a forced levy the next year on the salaries of its ordained men. About the only cheap article of food, in this mining and stock-raising State, has been beef, -of poor quality. But for the past year it has doubled in price. We keep but one servant, a maid, and washing is done out of the house, as it is ~~by~~ for all classes of the people. I care for my own horse, go to market and carry my own basket, and of course "black my own boots". Yet for my wife, myself and our seven year old daughter, the table and wages, making no allowance for buying furniture etc., involve an expenditure of from $80. to $90. Mex. a month, or, say, $40. gold. Tell me, how much is left for Dorothy's stoes and clothing, after she pays her fair proportion of this, when she has been receiving $3.75 monthly, and now since two months back is allowed $7.50? We use absolutely no canned goods, except now and then salmon or sardines, upon which the "duty" is very light, and limit ourselves to a fraction over one pound of butter per week for the family. Sometimes when we have "company", it disappears in less time! Cake we almost never make for ourselves; but Mrs. Eaton feels justified in occasionally making it for a friend who may be fond of it, and then she gets a bit of chocolate cake, which is a great treat to her. The Wagners may think the salary is ample, but standards differ. For almost all of the time, they have kept no maid at all. We urged the necessity of doing so upon Mrs. W.; and for a time last winter, when she was weak and ill, she did let a woman he help her, but scarcely more than to wash the dishes and sweep. How can she get time for studying the language or for mision work? Of course we could save a neat sum by dismissing our maid, to whom we pay $8.00 monthly Mex. besides boarding her, and our washing costs another $8.00. I might mention that for several months past, since our daughter cannot get much more instruction out of the kindergarten for Mexicans, we have been paying, for one-half day of instruction in a private school taught by an American lady, four dollars monthly. A German in

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Hermosillo, whose two daughters I brought back with me for placing in our boarding school, (their mother is Mexican), wished to have Mrs. Eaton give musical lessons to them on the piano, and she felt inclined to do so, partly in sympathy with the bright girls, (who could not get that instruction in our school, which has no piano) but mainly to eke out our slender income; but when I told her that the Handbook would oblige her to turn over her fees to the mission treasurer, for use in the work, she changed her mind.

Mr. Howland wrote to me, a week ago, that he expected me to preside at one of the public sessions of the Toluca convention, and to "lend a hand" wherever I might be needed. I replied at once that I had no money with which to pay the expenses of the trip, (he lives only a little more than one-third as far away as do we, and Mr. Wright has his expenses paid, as "delegate" to the S.S. convention; but we did not ask for anything of the sort from the Board for the next year, as it did not ~~did~~ seem fair to discriminate against the C.E. and other national conventions that are becoming common, and the Board could not be asked to send delegates to all), and now he writes that he is "very sorry indeed".

Perhaps, as the apostle says, I have made myself a "fool" in going into these particulars, and yet it is proper that you should be acquainted with our circumstances, and some of my remarks may have thrown side lights upon our life and work that will help you to imagine us as we are. I should be sorry indeed did it all make the impression that we are complaining of our lot. No, indeed, we are happy, and most of the time enthusiastic, but we do not want the dear people at home to think that we are living in luxury. I was amused at the remark of the plumber yesterday, or rather his question : "Is not the So. Meth. mission more wealthy than yours?"

On the 20th May Mrs. Eaton submitted to surgical treatment that had been strongly recommended to her by lady physicians when she was in the U.S. last summer, nd after three weeks in bed, without rising, she has been gradually getting about and gaining in strength, and we hope that her state of health may become better than it has been for years, or the summer that our second son was born, just before we came to Mexico, in 1882. She attended Sunday School last Sunday for the first time, as a listener only, and suffered no ill effects. The three doctors, one to give the chloroform, were very considerate of us, but we gave them a trifle more than the ten per cent Mrs. E. would have given to the work, to put herself on a par with some of hr sisters, and we shall call it "square".

You ask about Miss Hammond, who is now in the U.S., the mission having cordially endorsed her application for leave of absence to go thither at her own charges. Dr. Emerson Warner, of Worcester, Mass, now out of active practice, made an examination when he was here, and afterward sought a private interview with me at his hotel, to tell me, that he thought "it would not be ~~prudent~~ right, at present, to expose her useful life to serious risk, by the operation for a uterine tumor;" that the draft upon her system was not yet so great as to interfere seriously with her general health and happiness: that the shock of an operation in her case would be much greater than in the case of one upon whose system a tumor was making a heavy drain, in which case its removal might bring real relief. He said that in a very few years the symptoms might become far more serious, so as to render an operation expedient. He was kind enough to state his convictions to the doctor here, who had urged her to permit him to operate, and all seemed to be arranged in a friendly manner. He advised Miss H. "not to think of her trouble any more than she could help it, and not to talk about it to any, even of her intimate friends." A friend in the U.S. who claims to have had much success in causing such growths to disappear, through attention to diet, and some sort of massage treatment, I fancy, and who seems possessed of a noble Christian character, hopes to give Miss H. great help during this stay in the North.

I see that I have only touched upon one of the topics I had jotted down "for Dr. Barton", and that only in an indirect manner, "Congregation in Cumpas, Sonora". If Mr. Wagner himself does not inform you concerning this, let me know, and I will

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE
CHIHUAHUA,

try to tell you something about what seems to be quite a remarkable work in ma
respects.

I see Dr. Strong's name in the list of delegates to the National Council,
I should try this week to answer his two letters regarding my article that wen
into the “Congregationalist”.

Sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton

Chihuahua, June 27/98

From "The Enterprise"

AN OPEN LETTER

To the English-speaking Residents of this city.

Perhaps only a few of you expect to spend your whole life here. Yet the stay of some has already lengthened out to years, and doubtless others will be detained for months, who came with the intention of passing but a few days with us.

The ordinary course of your life having been interrupted by this sojourn in a strange land, you find it easy to drop certain good habits which ruled your conduct in the home land, and which you feel in your "heart of hearts" were a valuable safeguard against evil. Are they any the less needed here? Is not human nature pretty much the same everywhere? Can you afford to relax the "vigilance" which is the price of true liberty, —moral and spiritual, as well as political?

Permit me to remind you, that the public worship of Almighty God is one of those safeguards against deterioration of character, which you cannot safely neglect. You know that in the United States a great many men who do not call themselves Christians, nevertheless as good citizens, as heads of families, as friends of law and order, favor the churches and personally attend upon their services.

Are all of you aware that in this city there is one place where people of such convictions and sympathies, who yet do not understand the Spanish, may meet once a week? True, there is no organized church of any denomination for those who speak English, but there is a "meeting" for such, (to use a good old English phrase); which is responsible to no ecclesiastical body whatever. At one time, when we had a quartette choir, the persons who composed it, with the organist, represented just five different denominations. Our endeavor is to emphasize the great things upon which we all agree, and to drop out of sight the small matters concerning which opinions and tastes may differ.

The undersigned, in addition to his regular work on somewhat different lines, freely and gladly gives his services to this end, and most cordially welcomes co-operation on the part not only of visiting clergymen of any branch of the Church of Christ, but also of any layman who may bring us a word of instruction or of good cheer.

The "place" is Trinity Memorial Church on Independence Avenue, and the time is four o'clock on Sunday afternoons.

JAMES D. EATON,

American Board of Foreign Missions.

Chihuahua, June 30, 1898.

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Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 7-12-98
Ans'd 10-17

CHIHUAHUA, July 6, 1898.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston,

Dear Dr. Barton:-

This morning I received from Mr. Wright, of El Paso, a copy of a letter dated July 1, which he is sending to all the stations, and which gives copies of Rev. W. E. Barton's letter to you of June 10, and your reply to him under date of the 21st, with reference to the payment of rent for the Ed. Society's building in El Paso. He may have sent to you also a copy of his own communication to us. But in order that you may understand my reply, I will state that he makes the motion "That, as a Mission, we prefer to have the Training School permanently located at El Paso". He adds that "Replies, with as full discussion of the subject as desired, may be sent to the president, who will decide as to the best way of continuing the discussion, if necessary."

My answer is as follows, verbatim et literatim: "In response to Mr. Wright's letter of the 1st inst, I would say, that if he will make a motion to ask for a sum of money to pay rent for the property in El Paso for the year beginning July 1, 1898, -in accordance with the suggestion contained in Rev. W. E. Barton's letter, and referred to the mission by Sec. Barton, -I am ready to vote Aye. But regarding the question, concerning the permanent location of the Tr. School, as of too great importance to be settled by correspondence only, I find myself obliged to vote No, on the motion just made.

1. What Mr. Wright says, as to the probable effect of a "railroad to the sierra region" is doubtless correct. I do not see that even a through line is going to "cut us off from the rest of the mission", but I do suppose that this through line to the Pacific, (for which a subsidy from the National Government has been secured to the amount of $2,600,000.00, and another subsidy from the government of this

State, for the first 200 kilometers, of $3,000.00 per K., has been voted by the legislature), will make communication with our associates on the west coast far more direct and easy, and probably obviate the necessity of their making the detour via El Paso. Thus a point like Guerrero would become more central to our work in the four States where it is at present carried on.

2. I understood that the chief, if not the only, reason for locating the School on one side or the other of the frontier line, was the close coöperation to be maintained, ~~between~~ in the support of such a school, between the American Board on the one hand, and the Home Miss'y Society, (we hoped), and the New West, on the other. But that partnership is now dissolved. Why then should our own Board continue to do so much for the Home work, after it has been left to carry the school alone? The point I make is sufficiently sustained, it seems to me, by a part of Mr. Wright's postscript, viz. "The Education Soc'y should consider that the home land has had the use of seven men from this school, as preachers to Mexican churches, a larger number than the Am. Board has had".

3. A further consideration, which shiuld be given weight, is that the prospect of going to live and study in the United States, is a very alluring one to Mexican youth who have been brought up, for the most part, on farms on in retired communities. If a young man were ready to practice self-denial in order to be able to go to a school of ours located in Parral, or Guerrero, I should feel surer of his sincere purpose to prepare himself for a self-sacrificing work amongst his own people in Mexico, or it may be better to say, surer that he was not unbonsciously influenced by motives of worldly advantage.

I am sure that all of us believe that the school has been and is now decidedly 'profitable' to our work for the Mexican people".

One of those "seven men", (perhaps the brightest of them), we tried hard to keep in Jimenez, 100 miles south of this city, but he got leave to visit El Paso, and from there wrote offering his services "for work in the U.S.", but refusing point blank to even consider a proposition to preach anywhere in Mexico.

Very truly Yours,

James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

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American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, Aug. 30, 1898.

J. L. B.
Rec'd 9-6-98
Ans'd 11-4

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston,

Dear Dr. Barton:-

It was very gratifying to me to learn that my last full letter ha been of use to you. Since that writing I have had a busy two months, during which I have not found time to make a single trip to a few waiting out-stations. One of the "extras" has been the superintending of Mexican workmen who have been making greatly needed changes in the mission school-and-residence property, so as to separate them completely, and render the boarding and day school premises more compact and convenient. My wife and myself thought that the entire premises would be none too ample for the demands of the school in the near future; but the mission thought otherwise, and at its last annual meeting authorized an expenditure from the Rent and Repairs fund, to meet the expense, or rather a portion of it. From gifts of personal friends I am hoping to be able to make good the deficit.

Miss Hammond had hoped to be on the ground by this time; but a while ago she showed us that it would be prudent for her to prolong her stay another month; but last week we heard from her, that her physician is very unwilling to have her return before December; and she asked whether Miss Burris, who was waiting here for conveyance to Batopilas, could not take her place for these months, or whether Miss Long could not be lent by Guadalajara. But it was felt by all that G's need was greater than B's, and it is likely that the executive committee will approve of Miss Hammond's first suggestion. It seems very important that Miss H. remain where she is until she feels quite well, and that the conditions here be so arranged that it mmay be as easy as possible for her to do so with a tranquil mind. Her address is Drew Seminary, Carmel, N.Y.

Will any further action by the Prud.Com. be required, in view of this unexpected extension of her leave of absence?

The native preacher in Batopilas seems to be taking hold well; his monthly reports are encouraging. The more experienced man who was there for two years, but had to leave on account of the trying climate, (it is very hot in the deep barranca, or canyon, in summer), Señor José M. Ibañez, who has taken Mr. Wagner's place at Guerrero, is feeling very much better in health in that cool climate. His late congregation in Batopilas raised $35.00 toward paying his traveling expenses to the national convention of Christian workers in Toluca, and that in Guerrero added $10.00. He passed through here both going and coming, (Toluca is a thousand miles from this city, and Guerrero is 125 miles further away from T.), and on his return it was plainly to be seen that the convention, -the first of the kind he had ever attended, - had done much for him. He felt that he had lived "at least a year" during those five days. He was the first to arrive here after the convention, (other natives and Mr. Wright coming later), and reported that our Sunday School in this city was mentioned by the president of the S.S. convention, Rev. Arcadio Morales as the one standing first in the republic, of those making returns to him, both in point of membership and in thoroughness of organization. This was a great surprise to me, and a not altogether agreeable one; for it seemed to show that the work throughout the republic is not so far advanced as I had hoped it was. From the Christian Endeavor Convention held in the same city, and during the same week, it was reported that this church had received more members from the C.E.S. during the year than any other church, with one exception, which had received the same number, and so the banner was voted to be left with each church for six months. So Sr. Ibañez remarked with a smile, that "our church was not left behind in any particular". (He himself belongs to it, and his younger brother was the first infant I baptized in Mexico). He also surprised me by the news that I had been unanimously elected President of the United Society of C.E., of which Mrs.Eaton was the first secretary for two years, and the chief moving spirit, as Mr.Howland himself testifies. A year ago, when we were in the U.S. I wrote to San Luis Potosí, insisting that some one else be chosen secretary, and a Mexican, Rev.Eucario M. Sein, a Friend, was chosen. But he has done practically nothing, though Mrs.Eaton has helped out a little, unofficially. And Mr.Howland, burdened with "El Testigo", found it impossible to do as much as he saw was necessary for the welfare of the organization. Now another Mexican has been appointed secretary, Sr.Modesto Gonzales, of Matomoros, opposite Brownsville, Texas. He is a publisher of music, and kindly offered to undertake to establishing of a new paper, as organ of the United Society, to be called "El Esforzador Mexicano", (The mexican Endeavorer), the Convention voting to send out a circular to all the societies with the recommendation that they heartily cooperate. His interest in this paper may lead him to do more as secretary, though as yet he sends no response to my suggestion as to the gathering of statistics of all the societies, and I do not yet venture to take the matter into my own hands, lest he be offended. But he has asked me to write the circular letter, although he is the secretary, because he feels it would hardly be proper for him to recommend his own publication; and I have done it this week.

The editor in chief is another Mexican, living also in Matamoros, and he asks for our photographs, and wishes my wife and myself to write for each issue of the paper. So we are in for it, so far as our strength may permit!

I wrote to Mr.Howland that it seemed to me unwise, and hardly fair, to elect an absentee to so important an office. They might at least have consulted me by telegraph. Had I had the opportunity, I should probably have declined, For it does seem as if I had now all that my time and strength permit me to do: but not wishing to leave the Society in a predicament, I intend to do what I can in its behalf. An organization was effected at Toluca, whereby the Epworth Leagues and the Baptist Associations are "confederated" with the S.C.E. This is an important step toward cooperation in mission work, for which C.Endeavorers have been striving for some time past. Mr.Howland was elected the President of the "Confederation". So that Congregationalists were somewhat in evidence!

I did not go to Toluca for the simple reason that I couldnot afford it, as I believe was explained to you. And I am sorry indeed that the secretary and the editor live so far away, that I shall not be able to have a personal consultation with them, such as would doubtless be of very great service in the work of the coming year. For I have never met either of them.

While speaking of cooperation in mission work I think of an item that may interest you. At the beginning of 1897 the Presbyterian paper, "El Faro", offered a prize of $15.00 to the one who should send the largest list of subscribers, new or old, during the first three months. Of course I paid no attention to this, but went right on with my ordinary work, sending in lists from Chihuahua and out-stations, as usual. (In this city I circulate fifty copies of our own paper, and the same number of "El Faro", which covers rather different ground). You may then imagine my surprise when the paper announced, under date of April 15, that I had taken the prize. At the opening of the present year the paper made the same offer, adding a second prize of $10, and a third of $5.00. The publisher wrote to me that I would better try for the prize again, and I confess I did make a little effort this time. It was announced also that in order to win the first prize one must send over 100 names, for the second over 80, and for the third over 40. April 15 it was announced that Mr.Eaton had sent 146 names, Rev.Alfonso Herrera pastor in Merida, Yucatan, 83, Rev.C.Scott Williams, of San Luis Potosi, who was the first president of the United C.E.S.-a Presbyterian, as is also Herrera,-59 names. I felt almost ashamed to take this away from the Presbyterians, especially as some ten years ago I was sending between 200 and 300 names for the same paper from my particular field, when I found it useful for introducing the Gospel, on account of its superior illustrations, fine paper, and articles of general interest.

In its mechanical make up our own paper now compares favorably with the *Faro*.

One thing more, if you are not weary ! In July we had Orrin's circus close by our church, on the wide Independence Avenue, for two whole weeks. It was a great drawback to our services, and it robbed us of sleep, since the performances did not close until after 11 P.M., and noisy street cries succeeded. The mayor told me he thought it was the last time we would be so annoyed. We were therefore confounded when on the 10th of this month Treviño's circus came to the same spot, with a menagerie, after dark. The cage of African lions was left within ten feet of our front door, and their occasional roaring prevented our closing our eyes in sleep until after 3 A.M., when exhausted nature yielded, and a few naps were obtained. I called one of the police captains who was passing, at 2.30 am. and expressed my surprise that a city calling itself civilized should permit such an atrocity, comparing myself to Daniel in the den of lions, (for neither of us got bitten!) The mayor lives but a block away, and was also kept awake somewhat; so he offered to order the cage to the outskirts of the city for the following nights; but the circus men made him believe that they could keep the lions quiet by having a trainer with them all night. So the thing went on for a week, though with less roaring. On the 12th inst I went to see the governor, especially to show him the manuscript of a notice I wished to distribute, and he said it would be all right. He also called in the mayor, and expressed an opinion favorable to my own ideas. I send with this the notice, which I gave to various Mexican gentlemen of influence and liberal ideas. (Our services in Spanish went on as usual, though under disadvantages; but do not think that religious questions entered into the case. I have no doubt the same thing would have been allowed, had a Roman Catholic chapel been on our lot of ground. The city received a ground rental of $25 or $30 a day, and perhaps the mayor got a small bribe). At length, for four or five nights the cage was taken off, after 11 P.M., to a *meson*, and the lions did not trouble so much. The circus management offered , for the sake of pacifying me, to give a benefit performance in aid of the church! They also did a thing unheard of before in my experience here, viz. brought me, (the man second in importance himself doing it), a family complimentary ticket, with numbers printed in the margin for fifty-two admissions.

My notice has occasioned a good deal of remark, altogether favorable from foreigners, and even Mexicans hawe expressed their sympathy with me. An American who buys great quantities of ore here, for shipping to smelters elsewhere, asked me if I were not afraid they would "go for me, for presuming to criticising the government". I replied that I only wished they would do so, through some periodical, for it would give me an opportunity to cite the governor himself in my defense. The circus continued for fourteen days, then went to Ciudad Juarez, opposite El Baso. Now it is said that it will return here, inside of a few days, but that it will give its performances within the bull ring. So I feel that I have not come off second best.

Only, Mrs. Eaton was made nearly sick by all the loss of sleep, and after one week of it I sent her to Aguascalientes, about 600 miles south of here, where she will stay about two weeks longer, as the guest of her brother William A. Pratt, who is an assayer and ore buyer in that city.

It was fortunate that I planned to remain in this city during the entire summer: for there have never been so many cases of sickness and death amongst the foreigners and Mexicans connected with us, in the same length of time, during all the years I have been here. Since the 5th of July I have had eleven funerals, representing all ages and both sexes, -Americans, Mexicans, German, Spaniard, English and Scotch. A blessed feature of it was that all the adults died in the faith.

Hoping that all is well with you, and that tomorrow's record will leave the showing for the treasury in as favorable a light as can be reasonably looked for, with an improving outlook, as PEACE is before us, and business apparently improving I remain

As ever yours

James D. Eaton

Address:
James D. Eaton
Chihuahua,
Mexico.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 11-29-98
Ans'd 12-8

CHIHUAHUA, Nov.22,1898.

Rev.James L.Barton,D.D.
Boston,

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Your welcome letter of the 17th ult.found me in Guerrero, whither I had gone to visit a part of the field which has come back under my care, as a result of the Wagners' removal to Sonora. Mrs.Eaton's health has so far improved as a result of the operation last May, that she felt able to accompany me, and bore the fatigues of the journey better than she had for years previously. We journeyed altogether about 300 miles with our Mexican pony and buggy, (that have already served us for over thirteen years, growing old in the work,) and held meetings with four congregations, the longest series of services being that in Guerrero, — six nights ~~in all~~. The native preacher, José M.Ibáñez, is doing excellent work on this field, and his health has greatly improved since he left the hot climate of Batopilas. He belongs to the second generation of Protestants, and in his sympathies, modes of thought and methods of work, seems almost like one of the circle of missionaries. His father used to be a deacon of our church in Chihuahua, and still holds his membership here, while residing in El Paso. A younger brother was the first child I baptized in Mexico. Had he not been so far away in Batopilas, he would very likely have been ordained to the ministry before this. As it was, we encouraged the church there to vote to authorize him to administer the sacraments while he served as their pastor. The congregation in Guerrero has never been organized as a church, although a number of the regular attendants upon the services are members of the Cusihuiriáchic church, which we hope will be revived when the fortunes of that mining town improve. Perhaps during the coming summer we may be able to call a council to ordain Ibañez, and organize the church, which is likely to undertake a part of his support, as did that in

Batopilas. Mr.Wagner thought the Guerrero people were not yet ready to undertake any responsibility in the matter of self support; but Ibañez has organized the Christian Endeavor Soc., which was not in full working order, and through that is getting the people to give something. There and in San Isidro Mrs.Eaton presented the essay on "Christian Stewardship," with striking object lessons, which she prepared for the national convention in Toluca last July, and awakened much interest. In each of the four places a number of hearers were attracted to the meetings for the first time. Mrs.Eaton did so much with the women and in the families, besides her great help in singing, playing the organ, and taking part in the general meetings, that I felt that the usefulness of the tour was more than doubled by her presence. Years ago, i.e. previous to 1890 or '91, we did a great deal of such work together. One season she journeyed in the buggy, outside of this city, about 850 miles with me, and I travelled about 400 miles more alone.

In Cusi, we found a larger remnant of the church than we had expected, and the master mechanic told me that they were about to employ 120 men more in the chief mine, and that as soon as the new Chihuahua & Pacific R.R. was built, enabling them to ship ore of low grade to the smelter here, their business would greatly increase. Along our route we travelled for miles in close proximity to the "camps" of laborers who are grading the new road, and have laid the rails for about ten miles. It is supposed that this road will greatly promote the growth and prosperity of the city of Chihuahua. It will certainly facilitate communication between this State and our now isolated field on the Pacific slope. Mr.Bissell will not then have to make the wide detour via Guaymas, Nogales and El Paso, in order to reach this center.

And this brings me to the chief subject of your last letter, viz. the location of the Training School. I am glad that there is a disposition in Boston to provide for its suitable housing; but I do not feel that El Paso is the best place for it; and I trust that no final step will be taken before we have had a chance as a Mission to consider the subject on all sides, at the next annual meeting, about the first of April.

At the risk of perhaps needless repetition, I desire to present briefly the argument as it presents itself to my own mind.

(1). It would seem to be almost self evident that a mission board, seeking to educate men to be preachers and teachers in Mexico, should locate its one school for that object within the country itself, unless there be special reasons for putting it in the United States. We went to the border in the first place, in order to meet the New West Ed. Com. and the Home Miss. Soc., as we supposed our own Board would not have the funds needed for carrying on the work for Mexicans alone, ~~as~~ Since we could not expect to have a very large constituency of churches in Mexico. Then we moved across the river, because the New West offered to raise money for a building on U.S. soil, and to avoid vexations in the custom house. But to my mind the complete retirement of both the New West and the Home Miss'y Soc. (which latter disappointed us by making only a small beginning in cooperation) puts a very different face upon the matter. I grant that it is a very desirable thing (for the Spanish-speaking population in the U.S.) to have a training school to prepare preachers for working amongst that population: but I do not suppose that the Am. Board feels itself called upon to provide education for such preachers, when it has such large burdens upon its shoulders already, - especially when the education of its young men under conditions prevalent in the U.S. tends to unfit them to live contentedly under the material limitations of their own land. There is a craze on the part of the Mexicans for learning English, and a great many suppose that their fortunes will be made, if only they can get to the U.S. Some of our church members from Chihuahua have learned by sad experience that this is an error, and have borrowed money to get home again. We shall have difficulty enough in any case to hold our young men in Mexico, after they shall have been educated, but to deliberately hold out to them the attraction of an education on foreign soil, and to keep them there for years, is to make it difficult to insure sincerity of declarations on their part previous to their undertaking study, and to render their return to live on Mexican soil quite uncertain.

(2). Were the school to be established in Parral, it would be within easy reach of a number of churches and congregations of our faith, and so there would be more opportunities for aiding these groups of Christians, and for the practical training of the students, than are afforded where the school now is. Outside of El Paso the nearest church is that at San Buenaventura, which must be about 200 miles distant, and the next Chihuahua, 225 miles; whereas from Parral several congregations might be reached by students who should leave school on Saturday and return on Monday. In El Paso three or four other denominations have organized churches for the Mexicans.

(3). In my opinion the morals of the students would be better safeguarded in old Mexico than in El Paso. This is pretty "hard" on my own country; but it was the testimony, voluntarily given me in Guerrero, by an old miner (who had left his situation in El Paso in order to be exposed to less temptation to drinking,) that El Paso was the wickedest place he had known anywhere in the U.S. Some years ago, when I was returning home from our Mexican chapel there to Mr. Wright's house, I was startled to see "American" women at the open doors of dance halls wearing scarcely more than a chemise. I never saw anything approaching it in this country. I found, upon conversing with Señor Ibañez, that he felt, as strongly as I did, that it would be better to have our school in Mexico, and he was first a student, and then assistant teacher there (and preacher in charge of the congregation on this side of the river) for years. I asked him to put his opinion in writing, for your information, and he did so with alacrity. Following is the translation of his statement, in Spanish, which I will forward to you if you wish, but I should like to have it for use at our annual meeting: "Having been asked for my opinion on the subject, I wish to say that I believe it to be best, from the moral point of view, that our theological seminary be established at whatever point in

Mexico, rather than to have it in El Paso. All who are lovers of morality, and especially Christians who have been in El Paso, agree that it is a very wicked city particularly because in it there are exhibited, publicly, spectacles of immorality that are astonishing beyond measure. In one of the principal streets is found a disgusting center of immorality. It is the opinion of some travelers that El Paso is the most immoral city in the United States.

Of course in saying this, I do not wish to appear to claim that immorality and prostitution do not exist in Mexican towns. Yes, there is all of this; but on the one hand, the customs of the country are such that even the most perverse creatures do not allow vice to exhibit itself in so public a way. On the other hand, the Mexican women in general, however completely lost they may be, do not exhibit their wickedness in a manner so provocative of evil as do the public women in El Paso.

One thing more. If on account of such an atmosphere of immorality, unfortunately, (it is a supposition), some student in El Paso should fall into temptation, the circumstances there are such, that his wrong action might easily escape notice. Not so would it be in any place in Mexico, where all of us evangelicals are like a target, and all the acts of our conduct are watched by those who do not share in our religious beliefs. One bad action, of the sort to which I refer would cause a scandal. (Signed), J.M.Ibáñez, C.Guerrero."

(4). Economy. On account of the difference between the gold and the silver standard at present, I have the impression that property could be secured in Mexico for what would be considered a low valuation of the property in El Paso. And while ready-made clothing, stationery and some other supplies for the school, can be bought more cheaply in the U.S., servants' hire and the larger part of Mexican food cost less in this country. Table board for our girls' school in this city costs less than half what it does for the boys in El Paso. The boys probably eat more, but not more than twice as much.

The only positive argument that I remember to have heard Mr. Wright advance against a transfer of the school to Mexican soil, since the other societies withdrew, has been that it would be costly to import through the custom house, and pay freight upon, the outfit of school furniture. But as to payment of "duties", while I can of course make no promises for the government, I feel pretty confident that we could get permission from headquarters, by taking time enough, to import duty free the whole outfit that has been in *use* by the school. My reasons for this conviction are two. (1) The government favors education as much as possible, and has given permission in other cases to bring in without charge new articles for school use: and (2) it could be made to see that it would be profitable pecuniarily to have the money for the support of our school spent in Mexico, rather than in the U.S. The last issue of our leading journal in this city reports the names of certain companies just formed here, which are to be exempted from taxation for a term of years on condition of their investing a certain amount of capital in their new business. One of them is a saw-mill. As to transportation, the rate from El Paso to this city on household furniture is about $1 silver per 100lbs. Parral, on the same line of road, -a branch opened about one month ago from Jimenez, -is less than twice as far from El Paso. So the expense for freight would be less than $1.00 gold per 100 lbs. to the further point.

My points might be further enlarged upon, and others might be added, such as the suggestion of Señor Ibañez, that it would be easier to work an *industrial* department in Mexico than it has been in El Paso, especially to undertake some gardening by the students. Were the students nearer their homes, it would be easier for their parents to bring corn and beans for their sustenance, as have some parents done for pupils under the care of Miss Prescott in Parral. But I will rest my case here, only adding that I suppose it is never wise to purchase an article merely because it is *cheap*, if we do not actually want it, or if it be not well suited to our purpose; and urging that the problem be well studied in time, for after the school shall have been located through the purchase of buildings, it will be very difficult, and expensive perhaps, to bring about a change of place even though the error of the former location may be recognized and deplored.

I have your favor also of the 4th November, relating to the general matter of self support, and enclosing a series of questions to be answered for the mission. I will endeavor to have the information in your hands by the date you mention.

It is nearly three years since we enjoyed the services of Rev. Arcadio Morales of Mexico City, whose traveling expenses were met by this church, and who preached and taught in two meetings daily, for ten days. I have succeeded in getting him to visit us again, and he expects to arrive here tomorrow morning, to spend about one week. The time has been shortened to allow of his visiting the brethren in Parral, who put in a strong plea, and sent me $30 toward the expenses, which, with printing bills, will be over $100 Mex. He has spent four days there now. I hope in my next to be able to report our having received a blessing though the visit of this man of God. I enclose the general invitation. Special notices will be distributed each day.

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton.

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ADDRESS
JAMES D. EATON,
CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO.
VIA EL PASO, TEXAS.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, Feb.23,1899.

3-1-99

MAY 11 1899

Rev.James L.Barton,D.D.
Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

It was not my intention to allow my statistical letter, about the middle of last month, to serve as a message from this station for so long an interval; but the number of extras incident to the beginning of a new year has seemed this time to be greater than usual. The principal one, and which has required my attention at intervals for the space of two months to attend to the proof-reading alone, in this slower country, was the publishing of a new edition of the little Manual which I first prepared in 1886. The opening chapter was taken in large part from Dr.James Thompkins' Manual; the model constitution and questions for private examination of one's self, from a New Jersey church manual; the confession of faith and form for admission to the church, from that recommended by a committee of the Nat'l Council; forms for letters missive chiefly from Dexter's work. There have been verbal changes and corrections on almost every page of this new edition, and the new form for admission to the church is incorporated. I had advance orders from California and Florida, and if our chuhches undertake work in Cuba and Puerto Rico, the booklet may be of use there. I am sending today a few copies to Wm.H.Gulick, not knowing whether or not he can use the work, since, as I have remarked to him, I have an impression that the Spaniards feel like asking, "Can any good thing come out of Mexico?" This was felt to be their attitude with regard to the revision of the Spanish version of the Bible, when the last general assembly of Protestant workers was held in Mexico City. I send you herewith a copy, and have sent another to my seminary classmate, Dr.W.H.Cobb, of the Cong'l Library. Mr.Howland at first declined, modestly, to allow his name to appear, since I "had done all the work", but he consented when I urged that this would give additional weight to the suggestions of the manual.

My last descriptive letter was sent on the eve of the visit from Rev. Arcadio Morales, who was then already in Parral; but as our experiences here were so similar to those in the other town, and Mr. Olds has written full accounts of them, as appeared in the Herald, it does not seem necessary to write what would be almost a repetition of that which you have already heard. I believe that all of the girls in our boarding school who had not already reached a decision to follow Christ, made their resolve while Mr. M. was here, and a brief noon prayer meeting was spontaneously started by them at that time, which was still sustained at last accounts. Another fruit of his sojourn with us, was the starting of a union teachers' meeting which is held every Monday night, at the three Protestant centers of worship in turn, the pastors being responsible for leading the study or for naming others to lead. The "independent" Mexican church here, as usually elsewhere, being a diversion from the M.E. South, the late pastor of the latter showed strong feeling on the subject; but a change of preachers at the annual conference last October, brought here a man of excellent spirit, and as the young Independent preacher brought a letter of recommendation to me when he first came, I hold friendly relations with the latter as well, and have been able successfuly to use my influence on the side of union. Mr. Morales, who is president of the Sunday School organization of the country, arranged for a convention one day while he was here, and was delighted with the spirit manifested, and has since, in the papers, held up Chihuahua as an example to the rest of the country for the spirit of harmony amonst the several churches.

For the Week of Prayer, we easily arranged for union meetings, and the attendance on some nights was just about as large as when Señor Morales was here, and on the closing night, in response to invitations, a dozen persons for the first time came forward to express their purpose to follow Christ.

The church here has adopted the plan of holding its "cultos de ofrendas" (meetings for offerings) every two months, on the first Sunday night, thus alternating with the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. That for the month of December took on especially the character of a thank-offering, in view of the Morales meetings, and although about sixty dollars had been raised to meet the expense of Sr. Morales' journey and of the advertizing, the sum of the offerings was nearly fifty dollars. Two months later it was a little over twenty-five dollars. This "culto" was held in connection with the celebration of the ninth anniversary of the organization of our C.E. society, which coincided very nearly with the eighteenth of the parent society. At the Toluca convention last July the "palm" which had been offered by Mr. Morales to the society which during the year should furnish most members to the church, was awarded to two societies which had given equally good reports, one of them being our own. The palm came to us recently by express, to stay during the second half year, and I as president of the united societies in this republic, made the presentation address which was responded to by a young lady member of the local society. As the attendance was large, and there were four banners carried in procession from the chapel into the main room, two of them belonging to the church and two to the two societies of C.E., the impression was much that of a C.E. convention. It was delightful to witness the spontaneity with which afterward the members of the church arose in all parts of the house and came forward to lay upon the communion table their willing offerings, many of them at the same time repeating texts of Scripture.

I have as yet received no word from Mayor Cobb himself, but shall take the greatest of pleasure in showing him and his what attentions I can, if he comes.

We regret to hear, through Mr. Wright, that your visit to us must still be postponed.

Very cordially yours,

James D. Eaton

ADDRESS
JAMES D. EATON,
CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO.
VIA EL PASO, TEXAS.

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American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

J. L. B.
Rec'd 3-14-99
Ans'd MAY 11 1899

CHIHUAHUA, March 8, 1899.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Allow me in a brief word to express my satisfaction with your attitude as to "imperialism", expressed in the communication to the Boston "Herald", as quoted in "Harper's Weekly". Right here in Mexico it would be much easier for us to win the confidence of Roman Catholics, were it not for the charge made by the priests, and believed by many who are not specially under their influence, that the U.S. government is back of us, willing to bring about a "peaceful annexation". The late war has apparently made our work more difficult, for the very reason that the U.S. has extended its sway over Spanish-speaking people. But previous to that event, my wife and I have often said to one another, in view of the evident jealousy of the growing influence of "American" men and institutions here, that it would seem almost better for the gospel work in Mexico to be undertaken by Englishmen, or other Europeans.

Notice the paragraph "A Blunder", translated from the leading Mexican paper of this city, which was founded by a lawyer, now deceased, who was a very good friend of mine. It appears in the same number with a report of the meeting for organizing of a "Union Evangelical Society". I had hoped that the people might be ready for a union church; but the society will probably accomplish much. It will not add to our cares, except to the extent of giving some thought and time to a monthly social meeting. This will be offset by the somewhat increased influence of the missionary, and perhaps further moral, (if not material also,) support for the work for the natives.

This week I have sent copies of my new Spanish Ch. Manual, by request of the Rev. E. P. Herrick, to two cities in Cuba, where he had organized "societies". He adds: "Our churches are destined to be very popular with the Cubans. x x Where are our workers to come from by and by?"

I send you also a copy of "The Spanish Evangel" published by Mr. Case in California, with a paragraphed marked which struck me as a little peculiar. Probably most missions would claim that their institutions are "non-sectarian". That Sr. Mata was a Presbyterian church member when he came to us; then he turned Congregational while in our training school in El Paso, and continued so while under my direction in Jiménez. But his wife was in ill health, and he did not manifest much activity, and we were glad to have him request release. From El Paso, (where was his wife's home, she being a Methodist preacher's daughter), Mata wrote me, offering himself again for work in connection with our denomination, but on condition that it be somewhere within the bounds of the U.S., saying distinctly that he did not wish to work again anywhere in Mexico. Of course those in the U.S. are supported in greater comfort than the workers in Mexico, because of the great difference in the money. We cannot hope to remove this difficulty by locating our training school on Mexican soil, since the men will be free to go where they can find employment; but it is reasonable to suppose that it will not be quite so difficult, in that case, to retain them in their own land.

Mata is now earning in large part his own living, by working on the fruit ranch of a Methodist brother, - a circumstance which increases my respect for him, and my hope that he may at last become a truly useful worker.

I wrote you on the 23rd ult. No word has yet come from Mayor Cobb, who was to arrive about March 11th.

Very sincerely yours,

James D. Eaton

P.S. I have just been to the post office, and find that last night some hater of the Americans defaced the English side of the sign with black paint!

ADDRESS
JAMES D. EATON,
CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO.
VIA EL PASO, TEXAS.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, May 19, 1899.

MAY 26 1899
JUN 27 1899

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

I was very glad to hear again from you yesterday, under date of the 11th inst. If Mayor Coob spoke kindly of the work in this city, it was not due to any recent observations of his on the ground: for he got no nearer to us than the R.R. station! He was thoughtful enough to telegraph me to meet him at the station that Saturday morning, and the first word was, that the excursion train would arrive at 10.30. I drove down with Mrs. Eaton, to find that it would not come till noon; then the hour named was a little after 2 P.M. We were on hand again, but the train dispatcher reported the train just past a station that is fifty miles south of here, so that it could not come much before four o'clock. At that hour my wife had choir practise in the church, so we returned, and I put up my pony, who had been on duty for more than six hours, and hired a hack to go again to the train. The train dispatcher warned me that the train would not stop at the passenger station on this side the river, but would go directly across to the shops, and only wait fifteen or twenty minutes, long enough to change locomotives, as it was so much behind time, and was then almost due in El Paso. So I dismissed the hack, paying only my 25¢ fare, instead of $1.50 per hour as there seemed to be no chance of taking the Cobbs to our house and work in the city. One of the men at the round house corrobated the report of the dispatcher. Soon the train came in sight, and stopped at the station, nearly half a mile away. Still I did not lose confidence, -only regretted I was not there to board it, and so save a few minutes more for the interview. Quickly it came up to where I was, and I made for the first porter I saw, who said that the passengers all got off at the station to go up to the city!

I collared the conductor, metaphorically speaking, and he said the passengers had persuaded him to let them off at the station, and that it might take an hour an a half to "water" the ten Pullmans etc. There was no conveyance in sight, and I a mile from home; but I started, hoping for a lift on the way. All the hacks were going the wrong way, and occupied. Not even did a street car overtake me, after I crossed to the line on this side. At the main plaza I saw various excursionists from that train, but did not find the Cobbs, so turned my steps toward our church and house, only a thousand feet distant, with great expectations, and thinking to say to my wife, "You beat me after all, by staying at home". But no, she had heard nothing of them. I rushed back to the plaza, and took another hack to the station, to which the train backed over just before I reached it. The Cobbs had mounted before me, and I had a brief interview on the platform of their car before they steamed off. There was only time for the briefest explanation and greeting, none at all for speaking of the work of the school in El Paso, and only a chance to answer a question or two as to our progress in this city. But I had provided myself with "Life and Light" for Nov. 1892, (which contains two articles by Mrs. Eaton, one giving a sketch of the beginnings here, and of the points gained in the first ten years,) and with one or two other publications, which may have helped Mr. Cobb a little. I had not been without hope that he might spend Sunday with us, to see the work, and address the English-speaking congregation, and greet the Mexican with a few words through an interpreter. Indeed I had prepared some of the Americans for such a possibility, after receiving the telegram. You may imagine then the keenness of my disappointment, at the insignificant outcome, -with nearly all of my saturday spent on the road, and I pretty tired and sore at heart. I came pretty near making a vow that I would never go to meet another excursion train, as this was not the first disappointment of the kind, although surpassing all others in degree. My wife and I are still curious to know why Mayor Cobb did not come to the house or church, when there were business firms close to the plaza, that speak English, and that could easily have directed him, and indeed the large octagonal tower of that church was in plain sight only 400 paces away. At the station I did not ask him why, because I did not wish to appear inquisitive or critical. I had a double reason for trying hard to meet him, -your own letters and his telegram.

As to the Training School, -I was informed by the Wrights that Mr.Cobb was strongly in favor of its remaining at El Paso; and when the question of purchase of the buildings by the Board came up, I concluded to vote in the affirmative, for the reasons, (1) that I did not wish by a negative vote to weaken the force of our appeal for a properly equipped school; (2) that we had been led on, step by step, to place it where it is, and it was possible the Lord wished to have it remain where it is, and that He might soon show us reasons for such a location, (3) if the property were bought at a low figure, then we might hope at a later date, if it should seem best still to move the school, to sell it for more than it cost, as El Paso is growing, and thus have means for acquiring property on Mexican soil. Mr.Howland said to me that, while he should probably have voted also in the affirmative, it was "something of a relief" to him that he, as the presiding member, did not have to vote. On the train going up I showed him the letter written by José M.Ibañez, our preacher, of which I sent you a translation, on the unfavorable conditions, morally, for the school in El Paso, but the matter came to a vote before I had circulated the letter amongst the rest, and I did not care to hold them back while I read it, the lady teachers being present, and so contented myself with giving its general tenor. A lady in this city, Mrs. Leitch, who is a great worker amongst prisoners and fallen women, and holds her membership in the El Paso church, since the English-speaking one there became defunct, told my wife of a sample occurrence; A woman she knew was arrested by the police on two occasions, for riding through the streets on a bicycle while she was habited only in a chemise!

Mr.Wright will of course inform you in regard to the dedication of the new church edifice, and report the votes of the Mission. It was a very harmonious meeting, and as Mr.Bissell had actually arrived in advance of the time appointed, there was no occasion for delaying action on important matters until he should be present, as has occurred more than once in years past, owing to the difficulty of making connections between the varying means of transportation from his field. Doubtless the secretary will inform you,(or Mr.Bissell),that we understand the request for leave of absence "for an indefinite time," which was presented by Miss Miller, and approved by the Mission, will end in her entire release from connection with the Board. It is our opinion that the Bissells will now remain satisfied, at least for some years to come, that it is hardly advisable to locate an American lady missionary teacher in Fuerte. Some of us feel that the work of teaching there can be done sufficiently well by a native who may have been educated in one of our mission schools manned by American women. I prefer not to enter into the merits of a question that has two sides, as most questions have, but to content myself with saying that Miss Miller has not the physical strength which the work here demands, and that we are somewhat surprised that she should have been appointed at all by the Board. One peculiarity, which perhaps made no difference at the isolated station of Fuerte, would have caused serious embarrassment in other parts of this country, where missionaries from Southern Baptist, Methodist and Presb'n churches are numerous, viz. the large admixture of Negro blood, showing itself in complexion, lips and hair. Miss M. desired to have quiet separate apartments during her stay in El Paso, on account probably of her weak condition, and it was quite difficult to secure a suitable place for her, on account of her color, although she has very ladylike manners. She has safely reached her home in Belize, British Honduras, after a pleasant voyage from New Orleans, and has rendered to me an admirable statement of her traveling expenses which will be forwarded to Mr.Wiggin, as soon as I hear from Mr.Bissell what he expended on her account for the same object. Her salary ceased when she left her field, and I do not know that she will expect any grant in aid from the Board. Nothing was said of any such thing, either by her or by us.

In El Paso I was asked to preach in English at the M.E.church, (Northern) ~~SOUTH~~, in the morning, and chose to speak on a missionary theme, as the enclosed calender shows. Mr.Howland preached in the same church at night. No invitations came to our missionaries to speak at any other of the American churches, although there were calls to preach at two of the Mexican churches. Mr.Wright explained that in the case of the Presbyterians the people are so devoted to their pastor Mr.Moore, that they are unwilling to have anyone else invited to preach for him. I do not know what are Mr.Wright's relations to the pastors of the So.Meth. Baptist, and "Christian" churches, but have no reason to suppose they are otherwise than friendly.

Here in Chihuahua, on Wednesday the 17th inst, we held the annual meeting of the church as usual, in two sessions, the first beginning at 4 P.M., for the purpose of hearing reports of work and for election of officers, and the second, at 7 P.M. for presenting the rest of the reports, and calling the roll of members. From 6 to 7, there was served a very simple collation, of sandwiches, doughnuts and coffee, in the shady yard back of our house, for the double purpose of providing opportunity for social converse and of making it easier for the people to attend with promptness both sessions. The missionaries, some members of other churches in Mexico, and those under eighteen years of age, could not vote, and a number of our members could not attend by day, on account of their having to work; yet we had thirty-two voters at the day session, and fed eighty people at the collation. We were surprised to receive, the following day, an official letter signed by ten of the members, of which the following is a translation:

"The undersigned have the honor to address you the present communication for the purpose of making you know our sincere acknowledgement and gratitude for the benevolence with which you were pleased to receive us, giving us so elegant a lunch. In the name of the church, we give to you and your wife the most respectful thanks for the favor alluded to, and which so greatly pleased us. Meanwhile we do not forget the happy moments which we all without exception enjoyed in the afternoon of the Annual Meeting of the Church, because of the collation which was furnished; on account of which we consider ourselves highly honored. We bid you farewell, saying to you that our hearts are yet running over with gratitude and affection for you. Your brethren in Christ."

About half the time of the recess was given to a hearty singing of hymns, mainly from memory. The people sitting amongst our leafy fig, peach and pomegranite trees, (which were decorated with small national flags, while two large Mexican and American flags, intertwined, arose over all, covering our little girl's swing,) made a very pretty sight. Last year we could not give the lunch, owing to Mrs. Eaton's illness, and she was so over-burdened with responsabilities this week, that I opposed her attempting the task, as our good girl had to leave us a while ago; but she insisted, got some temporary help, and carried all through with triumphant success, as she usually does. A firm of Germans, some six or seven of whose children I have baptised, gladly lent us the plates and cups, as they have done before, and not one was lost or broken.

Reports were given, by the deacon who is supported wholly by the church as an assistant pastor, (showing 12 members received to full communion on profesion of faith, and eight by letter and 15 infant baptisms); by myself as treasurer, (showing a larger sum than ever before raised for self support), by the Sunday School, (showing largest attendance, 138, average, 102, largest collection $5.44, average $2.42), by the three C. E. societies, and workers among the women. My wife and I were the only foreign speakhers.

Tha great event was the calling of the roll, each member present responding usually by a verse of Scripture. From absent members, in other parts of the State and in El Paso, letters were read, to the number of 15 or 20. As this roll calling was in progress, I looked at a Presb'n elder from Zacatecas, who is a teacher in a government school there, but now on vacation leave, and thought he must feel we were looking pretty carefully after our members. Of that church a Presb'n missionary told me years ago, that many of the names on the list were unknown to the resident members, and he felt obliged to cut off some hundreds of those recorded, after careful inquiry made. At one period there was too rapid a growth in numbers, due to the influence of a prominent Christian physician, an American, long resident there, who not only doctored the people gratuitously but helped many of them with gifts besides, and threw his strong influence in favor of Protestantism in that city: it was Dr.J.M.Prevost, since deceased.

Instead of having a prayer offered at the close for all the newly elected officers, (who were one deacon, one member of the prudential committee, and the secretary,) I proposed that we unite with the three officers themselves, they leading in the order of their election. The suggestion was readily accepted, and it was touching to hear their petitions, partly in the first person, as they asked for wisdom and grace to discharge their new responsibilities.

Possibly some parts of this account, which I should hardly attempt to repeat, may be available for a corner in the Letters from the Missions, in the "Herald".

Our Senior C.E. society was organized March 1st, and has 25 members. It has voted to send a delegate to the national convention in San Luis Potosí, in July, which is over 750 miles from here, by the Mex.Cent.R.R., and is raising the money by subscription to pay the traveling expenses; the Young People's society will do the same, and possibly the Juniors. Our "Senior" is the first one organized in this country, so far as I know. It is working especially for self support in the church.

As ever yours.

James D. Eaton

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ADDRESS
JAMES D. EATON,
CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO.
VIA EL PASO, TEXAS.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, June 21, 1899.

J. L. B.
Rec'd JUN 27 1899
Ans'd JUN 27 1899

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston,

Dear Dr. Barton:-

I am to leave tonight for Parral and Zaragoza for a week's absence, to assist Mr. Olds in dedicating a new house of worship in the latter place, and cannot now write more than to make a single inquiry.

If you have taken time to read the minutes of our annual mission meeting in April last, you have noticed the action taken to provide for the visiting of each station's field, previous to the next annual meeting, (at which written reports of these visits must be presented), by some missionary named by the mission for the purpose. Advantage was taken, in the appointments, of the journeys that must be made in any event by the missionaries. Thus Mr. Bissell, having to cross the Sonora field, was asked to remain there for a time, and visit some distant points in company with Wagner. As I expected to go to the national convention, to be held in San Luís Potosí July 13-17, I was requested to go further and visit Howland's field in Guadalajara and vicinity. Since we cannot profit by visits from one of the secretaries of the Board, nor have we a superintendent on the ground, it was felt that the least to be done was to secure such visits as I have indicated. Each station was requested to estimate the cost of such a visitation; and the figures so far reported are as follows, in Mexican money:-Chihuahua $42.00; Guadalajara $27.00; Parral $57.00; Sonora $80.00. Mr. Bissel, in the U.S., has not yet sent me his figures, which may be $100 to $150, for Mr. Howland to go there. Bissell's field has never been visited by any one; and if he is to leave it in a year's time, as he now suggests, it seems still more important that it be known better than it is. El Paso will call for but little; a total of over $300, or about one-half that in U.S. currency. What I wish to know soon, if possible, is whether the Prud. Com. is likely to grant this sum; for I shall leave home July 10th, and

Mr. Wright will go about the same time, I presume, to visit the Parral field. If I made a special trip later to Guadalajara, (which would perhaps suit me better, it is true), it would be necessary to spend nearly $80 silver, instead of the $27.

Very truly yours,

James D. Eaton.

Rev. James D. Eaton, D.D.,
Chihuahua, June 21, 99

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J. L. B.
Rec'd 8-7-99
Ans'd AUG 9 1899

Sociedad Unida Mexicana de Esfuerzo Cristiano.

Presidente, Santiago D. Eaton,
Chihuahua.,
Vice-Presidente, E. M. Sein,
Matehuala, S. L. P.,
Secretario, Modesto Gonzalez,
Matamoros, Tam.,
Tesorera, Srita. Severa Euresti,
Aguascalientes.

Chihuahua, Mexico, July 26, 1899.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

I returned last week from the fourth annual convention of the United C.E. Societies in the city of S. Luís Potosí, reports of which, by vote of the convention itself, I have sent to the C.E. World and the N.Y. Independent. Also yesterday I sent another article to the Congregationalist, (as agreed upon by those of our mission who were present), on "The Convention Idea in Mexico", with the request that if the MS should not be available, it be turned over to Dr. E.E. Strong. You may think it best to inquire about this. The article was not at all an ordinary report, and I really think it presents a thought that is worth considering, as related to mission work here. We asked Mr. Howland to write for the Missionary Herald.

Those who had attended the previous conventions, declared this to be far ahead of them all. I did not attend them myself, for the reason that the distance, and consequent expense, was too great; although Mrs. Eaton went to the first one, she being then general secretary. This year, on account of my election to the presidency one year ago, I felt under obligation to be present, and there were so many requests that Mrs. Eaton go too, that we both went, at an expense of $103.00 Mexican, including a part of the board account; for it was necessary to stay at a hotel. Last year my salary was not enough to cover my expenses, and for the first half of this year it has been the same; so I do not know how I am coming out. I was reelected, and so my presence will be expected again next year in Mexico City. The market in San Luís is fine, all sorts of provisions being cheaper than here, especially fruits and eggs and poultry, and even beef costs less than in this center of a stock-raising State! We could not help longing a little for such facilities in our own city.

Had I not been reelected, I should have tried to cut down my work for C.E. a little, but now I must continue writing every week for our organ, El Esforzador Mexicano, and besides send out perhaps a quarterly letter to all of the societies, as was suggested to me by the general officers. Also, since the secretary and publisher of the paper lives at a point remote from the railroad, it was recommended that I keep in in this city the stock of pledge cards, constitutions, pins etc., which adds a little more to my work! And I find upon my return, a circular letter from Sec. Langdon informing me that I have been named to represent our work in Mexico in the matter of procuring objects of interest for the museum that is to be gathered for the world's missions conference next spring in New York. How much do you think I ought to try to do in that connection?

I was very glad to have Bro. Howland reelected as head of the "Confederation", for whose interests he has worked hard; and so again the Congregationalists received more of recognition than their numbers would warrant. But it ought to be said that in every other particular we were conscious of our inferiority. The other missions as a rule have far better material equipments than have we, and they have so many bright and capable young pastors and preachers; and as matters are going with us now, with a depleted missionary force, and scant means for native support, I cannot see much of a future before us, as a denomination. But perhaps we ought to be willing to efface ourselves, and be a leaven working in other bodies, as we have done often in the U.S.!

Returning on the train together as far as Aguascalientes, Howland and I had opportunity to confer together on some matters, and we agreed that on two matters of importance it would be well to send to you a suggestion. (1) As Mr. Bissell has announced his intention of retiring from the mission next year, which will doubtless be at the time of our annual meeting, occurring early in April, (which involves his leaving home the end of March,) we think it unnecessary that Mrs. B. should return to Fuerte with him. Indeed he himself can hardly expect to accomplish much in about six months; bout doubtless he will wish to return, in order to decide what things to sell and what to transport to the U.S. But unless a suggestion is received from Boston, doubtless the Board will be obliged to pay the traveling expenses both ways of Mrs. B. and a child or two. (2) The other subject we talked over when we were in El Paso at the annual meeting, but neither of us has mentioned it yet to you. Bro. H. thinks that you may not know that Mrs. Wright is sister to Mr. Olds, and that Mr. Wright is bound to them by even another tie, that is to say, he is a sort of uncle to them, -I do not know just the grade of relationship by blood. It therefore seems to us, on general principles, unwise for these brethren themselves to favor the appointment, to the same small mission circle, of another brother Olds. They would have so much wider an outlook upon the world's work, were they scattered a little over its broad field. Then too, if Mr. Howland continues to preside at our meetings, the three related families would have a majority vote of the mission; or if the already existing vacancy were to be supplied, it would still be a tie. Mr. Howland said to me that, months ago, he hinted at this, in conversation with Mr. Wright, but that the latter did not seem to have thought of it, and did not appear to take the hint.

By the way, have you thought that Mr. W. E. Lawson, the very successful pastor of Union Church in Mexico City, whose papers were found satisfactory to the Board two years ago, might be ready to join us when Bissell leaves? I do not know his thought at all, and doubt whether it would be wise to set him to doing the sort of work that the latter has had in hand; but you may think it advisable to look into this matter.

You ask, in your favor of the 28th ult., for "a good long report" of my observations on the trip to Zaragoza, with special reference to the work in Parral itself. I was very much pleased with the appearance of the native brethren of the out-station and with the nature of the edifice which we dedicated, a full report of which ceremony I wrote for our Spanish paper. The deeds of the building were made over to me as representative of the mission and the Board, although the latter made but a very small contribution toward it, and this only indirectly, I believe. But the brethren were satisfied that it was the safest way in which to hold the property for its sacred use.

In Parral the foreign population is increasing, and I think Mr. Olds is encouraged by the response to his efforts in their behalf, which have taken the shape of a service in English one a month. Two or three of the Christians from the U.S. are teaching in the S.School, and Dr.A.H.Whatley, formerly a missionary of the Cumb'd Presb.church in Aguascalientes, has established himself there as a physician, (after writing to me for advice), and is directly aiding in our work~~ing~~, taking prominent part in the meetings in Spanish especially.

There are, however I regret to say, a few disgruntled brethren, one of whom could not be continued as a native helper, and another was dropped from the school in El Paso because of lack of capacity and promise, who are ready to criticise and even oppose Mr.Olds. When I reached the city on my way to Z., I found that Mr.Olds had called a meeting for the purpose of having me explain to the people the circumstances under which it was thought best to trnsfer legal ownership in the Parral church edifice ~~there~~ to myself. I supposed it would be a very simple matter to make all clear and satisfactory; but the trouble was found to be deep-seated. It seemed to make no difference to them that the deeds were never in Mr.Olds' name, but in that of Bro.Case, nor that they themselves had given but about one-tenth part of the value of the building, yet were enjoying the use of it rent free etc. Some seemed to have the idea that Mr.O. had done all secretly and arbitrarily, and some words of recrimination were spoken on both sides which I deeply regretted. Had I known all in advance, I should have counselled Mr.Olds to arrange simply for a quiet interview at his house with the persons most interested, instead of a public meeting to which fifty or sixty adults came, and a few of them outside of the congregation. The ring-leader would not state his grievance, but insisted that the trouble was one to be settled between his pastor and himself. He afterwards took pains to bid me an affectionate and courteous goodbye, altho I had strongly supported Mr.Olds during the almost three hours' meeting. Privately I expressed to the latter my regret that he had used certain words. From what Mr. O. himself told me, about his conflict with the keeper of the prison, (where he was prevented from distributing tracts,) and about the question as to who should ring the ch'h bell on a certain national holiday (when the brethren proposed that he himself do it since he lived next door, and had been acting as sexton,) I infer that he is somewhat too abrupt at times, and so his real kindness of heart and truly consecrated spirit

Sociedad Unida Mexicana de Esfuerzo Cristiano.

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Chihuahua.,
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Tesorera, Srita, Severa Euresti,
Aguascalientes.

are not sufficiently well appreciated by some who do not interpret him aright. His wife is an admirable woman, but so absolutely devoted to her husband, that probably she is not able to help him to see in what respects ~~s~~he might modify his attitude toward certain questions and persons. This acute observation was made to me by Mr. Howland. True, I was not authorized to repeat it as from him, but I know of no reason why it should be withheld, and it is more honest to acknowledge my indebte
ness for the idea.

It just occurs to me that the "tour" of which you wished for a long report, wa
the one to Guadalajara and vicinity, since the question of expense was up. As it could not be paid for out of this year's resources, and as two stations sent in th
accounts too late for me to make out my semi-annual balance sheet before the conv
tion, it seemed altogether wise to postpone the visit till another year.

Other interesting matters, as the closing exercises of our day school here, mus
wait till another time, or till another pen can report them.

Faithfully yours,
James D. Eaton

July 26 '99

Mrs. Eaton has read this letter, and wishes me to add that "in our mission the men, Am
cans, are under~~worked~~ paid and dreadfully overworked; that one man amongst us does as mu
work as three men in some of the other missions".

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AUG 9 1899
AUG 9 1899

Address
JAMES D. EATON,
CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO.
Via El Paso, Texas.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

Chihuahua, August 2, 1899.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Referring to my letter of the 26th ult., this is but a line to say that Bro. H. M. Bissell reports that he now plans to start on his return journey to Mexico on the 14th inst, and that he has already applied for the reduced rate permits. Therefore it is probable, unless you have already written him on the subject, that it is now too late to bring about any alteration in his plans.

Very truly yours,
James D. Eaton

AUG 16 1899

AUG 20 1899

Sociedad Unida Mexicana de Esfuerzo Cristiano.

Presidente, Santiago D. Eaton,
Chihuahua.,
Vice-Presidente, E. M. Sein,
Matehuala, S. L. P.,
Secretario, Modesto Gonzalez,
Matamoros, Tam.,
Tesorera, Srita. Severa Euresti,
Aguascalientes.

Justin Winsor's Narrative & Critical Hist. of America 8 vols.
Vol 1. & II. & VIII.

Chihuahua, August 10, 1899.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton:-

Without awaiting reply to mine addressed to you under date of the 26th July, I have now to report another matter of interest, perhaps more especially to myself, and yet it has a direct bearing upon our work for Mexico. Beloit College has invited me to deliver the next course of lectures on the Porter foundation, the last having been given in May, 1897, by Prof. W. Douglass Mackenzie, of Chicago Sem. They write, "We have felt that it would be especially timely to hear from you now, when interest is so much awakened in Spanish-American countries. We have thought you would give us some account of the coming of Spain to this country: of the elements of character and life introduced thereby: and would picture to us the present condition and needs of the Spanish speaking peoples on our continent, with discussion of missionary methods and results. At least one of the lectures might be given at college vespers, and some of them might be to advantage illustrated by means of the stereopticon". They call for seven or eight lectures, and will give $200.

While I am grateful for the honor and the opportunity of the invitation, I know that it means a great deal of work, and this at a serious disadvantage. For while in the preparation of the lectures my experience for the past 17 years, will afford an important point of view, and my knowledge of the Spanish may help in consulting authorities; for such a wide survey as is suggested, the aid of books is indispensable. But here I am 2000 or 3000 miles distant from the best libraries. I cannot buy books at random, and I cannot even go to find what I need, not having railroad passes at my command. And there is no time to be lost; for with the multifarious duties which devolve upon me, I most get to work as soon as possible, or next May will find me wofully unready.

In this trying situation, I have been asking myself, Who can help me by tasting some ofthe books to be found in the large libraries, -historical, biographical, descriptive, or suggestive in any way along the line of investigation indicated by the college so as to be able to recommend certain works as probably worth purchasing by me? For I do not suppose that at this distance I could borrow anything from public collections. I am writing to W. Henry Grant, Esq., who arranged the library of the Presb'n Bd. of For. Missions, and who has visited Mexico more than once, and has been in my house, in the hope that he may be able to put me on the track of some helpful authorities, -if he be not on the other side of the world! Your own engagements will not allow you to do anything directly for me, but possibly you may be able to direct me to some student of allied subjects in your vicinity, who would be competent and willing to aid me in this matter.

As intimated to you in my last, I had thought that my reelection to the leadership of the C.E. Societies here, would furnish me with a sufficiently taxing "specialty" for the coming year; and then came the proposal from the "Exhibit" Committee of the Ecumenical Miss'y Conference, which adds a little more. Nevertheless I feel that I ought to attempt the work cut out for me, partly, on account of the stimulus to consecutive study which it would furnish, and which it is so difficult for us missionary "administrators" to secure; and partly on account of the chance it will give me to speak for Mexico and Missions to Latin-American countries. The money return will meet traveling expenses and something for books.

I should greatly appreciate any suggestions you may have to offer.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton

Story of the Nations – Preface

Spain.

Mexico

ADDRESS
JAMES D. EATON,
CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO.
VIA EL PASO, TEXAS.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

SEP 18 1899

SEP 20 1899

CHIHUAHUA, Sept.12,1899.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston,

Dear Dr. Barton:-

I am indebted to you for letters dated Aug.9,20 and 25,and wish to thank you especially for your kind offers of help in the obtaining of works of reference. I am afraid that the cost of Winsor's 8 vol.work will put it beyond my reach, but I should be glad to have Mr. Swett purchase for me the volumes on Spain and Mexico in the "Story of the Nations" series, and also John Fiske's "Discovery of America" which is strongly recommended to me by Fred. Perry Noble, of Chicago. I have in my own library several works that will be useful, and I find in this city a few in Spanish that will help me. Dr. A. H. Bradford, to whom I wrote as my pastor concerning these lectures, replied from Mt. Desert: ". . Give them lectures out of your own experience and life. For that I am sure you do not need to read a single book. You are yourself an authority. They have asked you to lecture because they wish from you something original. My advice is, limit yourself to Mexico, or at least Spanish America , as a Mission field; describe the field, morally, politically, ~~xxxxxxx~~ spiritually; speak of conditions of the best work; tell about what has been done and some of the workers; and give the students your interpretation of the future of those countries. Forgive these suggestions; but what I mean is this, you are already the book; let the students read you. But I will keep my eyes open and will inform you if I hear anything to your advantage". Those seem to me valuable suggestions, and I have written again to the College to see how far they may be willing to have me limit the field of view.

I too have felt that it would be necessary to drop out some of the things I am trying to do at present, and have asked Bro. Howland if he cannot get some one

Chihuahua, Aug. 10 '99

of the missionaries who does not write regularly for our "Testigo" to relieve me of the department of "Missions." I received yesterday from Harlan P. Beach a request that I undertake to "coordinate" the work of the various missionaries in this country who have been named to cooperate with the "Exhibit Com." of the Ec. Miss'y Conference, and offering to pay a stenographer to enable me to attend to the necessary correspondence; but I have written to ask to be excused from any service on the committee, on account of this call from Beloit. I had already written an article for our "Testigo" inviting tenders of help, toward making a useful collection, from our Cong'l constituency or others whom the paper might reach. Heartily accepting Mr. Howland's suggestion to that effect, (as he could not undertake the work), I have nominated F.S. Borton, of the M.E. Mission, Puebla, as acting chairman or superintendent of this business.

Now going back to the matter of your earliest letter, (1) it does not seem to me that the expense of attendance upon the National C.E. Convention can be met by asking for an appropriation with the approval of the Mission. Twice we asked for an appropriation to send a delegate to the biennial S.S. convention, but after the United C.E. Society was formed, and it was felt to be very important that as many of our missionaries as possible should attend these annual gatherings, we dropped the other because it was not possible to secure aid for several delegates, and it did not seem advisable to make any distinctions. The last convention was the fourth in the new series, but I went only because I had been elected president in my absence the year before. To the first one my wife went, as the general secretary; and at the time of the second we both were in the U.S. The gatherings are exceedingly valuable, but most of them are held at a great distance from us of the northern region. I have thought that very possibly the Montclair church would be ready to bear a part of the expense, since I am "their missionary"; but of course I do not feel at liberty to propose this without your approval; and in any case the suggestion might come from you to them better than from me. The railroad tickets would cost for myself alone about $77 Mexican, and the extra expense of living in Mexico City, counting room but not board, for the five days there, about $10, making something over $42 in gold, at present rates of exchange. On one or two occasions the late Dr. N. G. Clark assisted me in meeting extraordinary expenses, from some special funds at his disposal, but I fancy that in these "lean" years you yourself have not known much of such resources!

(2) In response to a letter of mine to Rev. W. Elsworth Lawson, intimating that possibly there might soon be an opening for him to join us in the work, has come a most interesting communication, of which I give you only the essential parts, viz. "First of all my application is still with the Board, and after having been finally dropped two years ago, I should feel diffident about applying a second time. Secondly, my coming into the midst of fine missionary work has taken a good deal of conceit out of me, and I have questioned over and over again whether I would make a good missionary. But my third difficulty is with my relations to this present charge. I have at last succeeded in getting the Ex. Com. to move in the matter of building, and a few hours before your letter came I took to the printers an appeal drawn up by Mr. Brown and myself. . . Four gentlemen of standing in the City are to act as treasurers of the fund. The plan is somewhat on Institutional lines. . . I have the feeling that if this thing drops to the ground at this time, it will scarcely ever be revived again". During the last fiscal year his congregation raised for current expenses (salary, rent lights etc.) over $3,500 Mexican.

(3) My last letter from Howland says: "Olds writes that troubles have continued, but he hopes the worst is passed, having had a conference with a committee". Mr. Howland thinks it would be interesting, and probably quite helpful, to know who first gave you the impression that things were not going quite right in Parral. You may not feel at liberty to tell us, and then of course I would not wish to have you do so. When we returned from Zaragoza to Parral June 26th, we were met by the rumor that the native brethren were about to write you asking for the

removal of Mr.Olds, and that they would avail themselves of the services of a Mr. L.W.Knotts, long a resident in that city, and he and his wife being workers in the Mexican S.School. I know from Mr.Olds that Mr.K. was offended because the former would not sign the latter's application to be appointed Vice Consul in place of a Mr.Long with whom very properly Mr.Olds desired to maintain pleasant relationship. But you evidently had heard something before that date, June 26th ~~of the rumor~~. I can hardly believe that Mr.Knotts would set himself to making trouble for the missionary in the native congregation, and yet he might have availed himself of the existing discontent to attempt to bring about a change, at the same time really believing that he was advancing the interests of the work in general. One who ought to be an impartial observer there, is a Dr.A.H.Whatley, an earnest Christian who founded the Cumberland Presb. mission in this country, at Aguascalientes, and who when he was obliged for family and health reasons to return to the U.S., studied medicine, and has now returned as a self-supporting missionary, and has given great comfort to Mr.Olds and valuable assistance in direct work of the gospel. He has been settled there for three or four months, and is building up a fine practice. I do not know that you would care to address him, or that he has written anything to you in relation to this subject. If our ranks should be filled up again, and the work on the Pacific slope continued, perhaps it would be wise to send an experienced person to that more isolated region, to which it had been expected to assign Mr.Olds at the beginning; but it was not done, as Mr.O. was not then married the first time, and he asked who was "going to take care of" him. The new man might more safely be stationed within easy reach of other missionaries. Had Lawson felt like leaving his present work, he with his marked pulpit gifts would have been very popular with those Americans in Parral and would have had a freer field for those gifts in the older church and with the surrounding congregations. But I presume hes has decided wisely.

Faithfully yours,

James D. Eaton

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ADDRESS
JAMES D. EATON,
CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO.
VIA EL PASO, TEXAS.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, Sept. 13, 1899.

SEP 19 1899
SEP 20 1899

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.

Boston,

My dear Dr. Barton:-

"The Congregationalist" of the 7th inst reached me today, and I cannot forbear calling your attention to the statement in the editorial on page 300 entitled "Protestant Missions in the Phil~~l~~ippines", middle column, about twenty lines from the bottom, "The fact that we govern the Philippines will put American missionaries at a grave disadvantage until etc." which, it seems to me, admits the substance of what we claimed, and yet which was combatted in the editorial "No Side-tracking now", in the same journal of June 15th (?). When I opened that paper on Sunday afternoon in Zaragoza, I was considerably surprised to find that it contained a paragraph from one of my letters to you; and I was not pleased to have my position considerably misinterpreted; but it did not appear advisable to attempt a correction at that late date, especially as I should be in the power of the editor who could have the last word, so I said nothing either to him or to you.

At this end, the utterances of missionaries are still more closely watched, and two So. Methodists and one Baptist had their ~~influence~~ usefulness nearly destroyed (two have gone) by the publication here of what they had said in English in the U.S. Over ten years ago I declined to write for the "Andover Review" a 15 or 20 page article requested of me, on the ground that in order to make it safe I should have to suppress some things essential to accuracy and vivacity. Bro. Howland writes me now: "Your task will be a delicate one, as your every word will be watched in the hope of being able to wrest and misinterpret, and it will be hard to prevent this thought from hampering freedom and vigor in the development of the theme".

As ever yours,
James D. Eaton

Chihuahua, Sept. 13, 99

SEP 20 1899

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SEP 20 1899

ADDRESS
JAMES D. EATON,
CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO.
VIA EL PASO, TEXAS.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

MEXICO MISSION

TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, Sept. 14, 1899.

Chihuahua, Sept. 13, '99

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston,

My dear Dr. Barton:-

About a week ago I received a "Membership Card" for the International Council, which made me wonder whether the greater part of the delegates from missionary lands were not expected to materialize. Then came an invitation to the "Reception and Collation at the Vendome" which caused me an additional pang of regret at my inability to be present. Now today I have a letter from Mr. S. B. Capen stating that I am to be his guest, and telling me how to reach his house! This seems positively cruel. I have just written him that no one had even asked me whether it would be possible for me to serve as delegate, and that of course it is out of the question for me to attend the notable gathering.

But it seems to me prudent to address you also on the subject, as you are expected to answer for the missionaries in Mexico, in order tha you may make it sure that those who may be responsible for my appointment as "delegate" do not imagine that I have been remiss in this matter or may have treated the subject with indifference.

The "Boston Book" which has been prepared especially in anticipation of the meeting of this Council, would be very useful, I think, for informing some people here who know a great deal about Methodism and Presbyterianism, and even Mormonism, (since we have three or more flourishing colonies of the last named in our State of Chihuahua), but who are wofully ignorant of Cong'l history. I want certainly one copy each for two native preachers under my immediate charge who speak English, the library of our girls' school in this city, and myself, and I will pay for these four copies, in cloth binding, if you will kindly order them sent me by mail. Besides these, one for our training school in El Paso, and one to lend to Americans resident in this city who attend our servi in English, (not to suggest more openings for service on the part of the littl volume,) would be very acceptable. Possibly Mr. Capen or some other enthusiast member of our churches might like to place a few copies in Mexico, with my cooperation.

As ever yours,

James D. Eaton.

Chihuahua, Sept. 14, '99

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ADDRESS
JAMES D. EATON,
CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO.
VIA EL PASO, TEXAS.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA, Dec.11,1899.

DEC 18 1899
DEC 19 1899

Rev.James L.Barton,D.D.

Boston,Mass.

Dear Dr.Barton:-

Yours of the 20th Sept. and 10th Oct. are before me,and I thank you for suggestions in regarding to reading for the lectures.

After getting the address of that Mr.Gill,of Pittsburg,I wrote to Mr.Olds simply asking him whether he knew anything of the gentleman,and he replied on the 6th Nov. as follows:-"Mr.E.S.Gill is well known and well thought of in this city. He is the secretary of the Hidalgo Mining Co.,the big company of the Preseña,near Minas Nuevas,of which J.I.Long is manager, and as secretary is here a great deal,looking after the interests of the company. He is also President of the Parral and Durango R.R. which is in course of construction. He is a good friend of mine and of missionary work. Through his influence I secured a gift of $150 from the Hidalgo Co. towards the construction of our church edifice. He frequently attends service here,and often speaks to the people through an interpreter. At home he is a Presbyterian,and an earnest Sunday School worker". From this showing,it would appear that Mr.Gill has a right to express an opinion in regard to the work and workers,if any outsider can be allowed to do so. For my own part,aside from any question in regard to Mr.Olds' adaptability to that place,I should be greatly interested to know what Mr.Gill thinks,and what he would recommend; for Parral is not the only place where Americans are numerous;and we may expect to have them coming into this region more and more. We have not yet had a man in this city,for any length of time,of Mr.Gill's stamp,although some have given us a certan amount of encouragement and support.

Copies of your letter to Mr. Wright regarding the Appropriations for next year, have been furnished to the stations, and the news is like a dash of cold water in our faces. Perhaps we ought not to have expected anything better, but we were hoping that the better "times" in the U.S. might save us from this cut.

Amount given us for the year now closing was less than we felt absolutely needful, especially as through some misunderstanding we failed to include in the Estimates for 1899 the salary of a native helper for Mr. Bissell, in Sinaloa. In the last Estimates we remembered this, and added one for Sonora, besides another one that simply took the place of one made necessary in the sierra region, with Guerrero for a center, on account of the removal of the missionary family, Wagners, from there to Hermosillo, and one for San Buenaventura in the State of Chihuahua, where we are to dedicate a new chapel Jan'y 1st, built by Deacon Romero. This man has lately been transferred to Mr. Olds' field, and stationed at Dolores. At the same time we made several reductions where they could ill be afforded, and Mr. Howland relinquished a considerable part of the funds, all too limited, which he had been using in the Jalisco field, and I offered to take $60 Mex. less for obtaining help in my treasurer's work. We can do nothing for "Intervisitation", and unless the training school is suspended for a part of the time, we must dismiss three or four of the helpers now at work. Do you realize that all we asked for, was nine of these men, to be superintended by six ordained missionaries!

Mr. Howland's report of his visit to the Sinaloa field has just passed through here, and it makes it plain that we ought to hold on to that, and that it will be disastrous not to have a man to put there promptly to take Bissell's place. You know they leave in March next. Really a new man ought to be on the ground with them before they leave. Can you not push the appointment of a suitable successor! As Bissell's family is the largest, a newly married man would cost so much less to support, that a portion of the expense of locating him could be met from the difference of salaries.

ADDRESS
JAMES D. EATON,
CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO.
VIA EL PASO, TEXAS.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
MEXICO MISSION
TREASURER'S OFFICE

CHIHUAHUA,

Chihuahua, Dec. 11/99

I am leaving home tomorrow for a week's touring, and cannot write of th many topics that are waiting; but I felt I must speak of the necessity of s sending us a new man, and reply to your suggestion regarding Mr. Gill withou further delay.

Part of my long interval of silence is due to the fact that Mrs. Eaton expecting before this to write you pretty fully in regard to school matters Then she heard you had written to the Guadalajara station on the subje and she thought perhaps you would write to us, and so she waited.

Sencerely yours,

James D. Eaton

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Sencerely yours,

James D. Eaton

huahua, Dec. 11/99

Mrs. Gertrude C. Eaton
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Chihuahua, Mexico.
Feb. 7th, 1890.

Dr. N. G. Clark,
Sec'y. A. B. C. F. M.,
Dear sir;

It is a long time since it has been my pleasure to address you personally. Still, I always feel that I have a share in the letters that come from you, and that we always receive with so much pleasure; and no doubt you know that I also have a small part in the letters that go to you, from here. We have been made especially glad by your last letter, that tells of the certain appointment of our dear friends Mr. & Mrs. Whaling, to this field, and which speaks so cheeringly of the prospect of a *speedy* move in the direction of the much-needed training school. We thank you for all your kind interest in us, and in the work it has been our joy to try to do. Shall I weary you, if I introduce still another matter, and tell you a little about our girls' school, its present condition, and its needs?

You will remember, perhaps, that we came to this house, (the mission house), a little over a year ago, feeling it to be our duty to receive the few girls asking for admission as boarders, and so take charge of this new branch of our work.

until such time as it could be turned over to the lady teacher, or teachers. I undertook the work with a good many misgivings, feeling that it was all new to me, and not being sure of having strength enough for the undertaking. The Lord has blessed us wonderfully, however, and the year's record is a bright one. My health has not been so uniformly good, since we came to Mexico: the number of boarders has increased from four to ten, and we cannot receive any more, until we have enlarged accommodations; which we are now at work upon. All the girls who were with us throughout the year, who were not already Christians, united with the Church the first Sunday in January, four in number; and they give good evidence of being truly converted.

The day school is prospering also. There are over thirty in attendance (including the boarders), and though Miss Dunning has not been here a year, her influence for good is very marked upon the scholars. It has been a very hard time for her, however, as she has had the new language to learn, and has never before had charge of a school. We feel that she has done wonderfully well, but her conscientious estimate of her work leads her to feel that she has fallen short of her ideal, and that "worries" her. I have every reason to believe that she is very happy with us, as we certainly are to have her. But now the question comes, will it not be of great benefit to the school, to have another teacher associated with her? one who is an experienced teacher, a normal graduate, if possible, as our aim is to prepare teachers for our country schools, that are multiplying fast. We have, from time to time, applications from English-speaking residents, to receive their children, but most of them desire them to be taught in English, which is impossible with our teacher. We will probably meet this more & more, as the number of foreign residents is sure to increase, and all these would pay full tuition rates, thus helping us to receive more of the needy Mexicans. Will it be advisable for us to try to have an English department in our school, as the So. Meth. do in their "border" schools, which have been very successful? If that seems best, another teacher from the U.S. would seem a necessity. If we have two, Miss Dunning would prefer to take the charge of the boarding dep't, giving classes, as necessary, in the school. In that case, my connection with the boarding school would cease. I would continue to give music lessons, both instrumental & vocal, if necessary, but would be freer to work in the homes, and to make trips with Mr. Eaton, which I can now do the more easily since we expect to send our son to the U.S. this year. I am, however, quite willing & indeed desirous, to do that which is best for me to do, and will remain in charge of the boarding dep't, and even aid in the school as far as I can, if Miss D. remained alone.

Her school work is all, and even more than she can do, and keep her health: what work is done among the women & the young people, must be done by me, if it is done. We have just formed a Y. P. S. C. E.

I remember that some years ago, you mentioned Miss Richards, formerly of Spain, as a possible teacher for us. Is she now available? Would she be the one we want? Is she a thorough teacher? It would be such an advantage, for us to secure someone who knew the language already. This is entirely a personal letter. Of course, I know that we can not ask for a teacher, without the consent of the mission: that can be brought up at our annual meeting, to be held in April. Nor should I wish to press any claim, prior to the one Mr. Crawford has, for a teacher. I think his need is greater: indeed, it is my opinion based upon experience, that no station is fully equipped for work, till it has a missionary and wife, and a teacher. I would add, that the mission house, when finished, will accommodate both boarding-school and missy. family, as there will be separate kitchens etc. When more room is needed for the boarding school, it can be secured without in the least disturbing present arrangements, by building more upstairs rooms. I wish you could come and visit us when it is all done. We think it will be very nice. The Whalings can stay with us as well as not for six months, or more, and we shall greatly enjoy it. I hope I have not wearied you with so long a letter, and that you will help me to see my way clearly. Respectfully, Gertrude Eaton

Chihuahua Feby 1890

Copy. Chihuahua, Mexico,

April 2, 1890.

Mr. John A. Hinckley,

Supt. of Cong. S.S., Gorham, Me.

My dear Sir:

It is about a year, I think, since a letter was sent to your S.S., giving a description of the little grand-daughter of Eugenie Duran, Zenaida Poblano, and accompanied by a photograph of the same. We never heard that it was received, but thought nothing of it, as it is a very common experience for us missionaries to be left in doubt whether our letters are ever received or not. A letter from Dr. Clark received yesterday, however, says that you would like to know the name of the child, and that causes us to wonder if you never heard from us. If you have not received the photograph(which we had taken especially for your school, as a present from ourselves) and will let us know, we will see that you receive another, if possible. It is still a good likeness of your little protegé, and if it is not already in the S.S.room, I would suggest that it be framed and placed there, with the name attached, and a few explanatory words, so that all, the new as well as the old scholars and teachers, may feel personally acquainted with the young girl they are helping to educate. They will be able to pray for her more intelligently, also, and we do ask your earnest prayers for her, and for her grandfather. I for my part, will undertake to send you some account of her progress from time to time. I had not intended that so long a period should elapse without writing, and will try to write more frequently in the future, especially if I may know that the letters are received, and answer the purpose desired.

It was a year ago in January that Zenaida came to us. Almost from the first, she evinced a love for the Bible, and a desire to do right. While at home for the summer vacation, our helper and his wife, who are stationed there, were much pleased with her earnest spirit, and especially that she refused to go to a ball, to which her grandfather was very anxious that she and her mother should go. However, she had some bad habits, such as not being always strictly truthful, and of sometimes disobeying the law of *meum* and *tuum.* It may seem to you impossible that she could be a good girl and still disregard these principles of honesty, that are inculcated into our children from their earliest years. But the fact that these poor little ones are *taught* to lie and to steal, by example, and to think that they can do anything, so long as they are not found out, must make a great difference in our estimate of them, and such habits in one of them are no more reprehensible than the less glaring ones of temper, or of disobedience, in our American children. I am happy to be able to tell you, that it is now a long time since I have seen any sign of these old habits in Zenaida and I believe that she is bearing fruit worthy of repentance. On her return to the school in July, she did not look well: (she had left us in fine physical condition): and very soon a low fever developed, which lasted for five weeks. She grew very thin and sallow, and was not herself in any way.; but you would be delighted at her robust appearance now. We were obliged to shave her head after the fever, and she has now a short, thick growth of black hair which is not unbecoming to her jolly, round face and sparkling black eyes. In spite of her long illness she took one of the prizes at the close of the school in December, and her recitation, delivered at the same time, was one of the very best, and was received with great enthusiasm. She might be described as solid, rather than brilliant. She is never thrown off her base, and has a great deal of character. Accompanied by one of the other girls she goes to the market every morning, and buys what is necessary for their use during the day, and is always to be relied upon as willing and cheerful in any service. Our crowning joy in her was when she joined the church in company with four of her companions, the first Sunday in January. Her grandfather objected strongly to it, because he thought she was too young, and he wished her to be able to enjoy the "pleasures of sin for a season." But this did not move her, only cause d her to redouble her zeal for his conversion. Although her father and mother have not been baptized as Christians, they were pleased to have her do so, and we hope she may be the means of their conversion as well. Her influence for good may be great, in the two months vacation she will have in the summer. She is learning to play the organ, and has sent an English letter to her grandfather.

Some kind friend sent her Christmas cards this year, which she showed me with great satisfaction. We acknowledge the receipt of $20. for her support from your school. (or some member of it), and hope you may always have reason to feel that your gifts are well invested.

Yours in Christian love,

(Signed) Gertrude C. Eaton.

Mrs. J.D.Eaton.

Chihuahua – A. i 1890

(COPY.) Chihuahua, Mex. Oct. 30, 1890.

My Dear Mrs. Hume,

I was very glad to hear from you again after so long a time. I did not even receive the Report of the N.H. Branch this year, and felt very much cut off from communication with you. But not from your prayers, I am thankful to say, nor from your earnest efforts in behalf of our mission, as your letter shows. We had already heard from Miss Child asking about our schools, and the appropriation needed for building, but I had no idea that a letter of mine had been responsible for the unexpected interest.. We have now to thank the ladies for the appropriation granted of $1500., as a recent letter from Dr. Clark announces. I hope that our school may justify the expense and repay the kind donors in honest work done and in many Christian teachers sent out from its doors yearly. How anxiously we are looking forward to the day when our first class of four, shall graduate ready to be used in the Master's service anywhere. They are all Christians and all have consecrated themselves to the work of the Gospel openly in our Christian Endeavor Society meetings We do not know whether they will be able to meet the requirements at the end of this school year or not, but that is the end our teacher has in view. One of them in our great need, has left school and is now teaching for six months, expecting to return and join her class at the beginning of the (Calendar) year. But I will tell more of her later. These girls have been brought along through so many vicissitudes, so many new teachers who but half knew the language and handicapped through being so much alone in the work. May I not make a plea right here for the proper and strong equipment of our schools from the beginning. In any place where there is any prospect of a boarding-school being developed, why can not the rule be adopted of sending two ladies as companions from the start ? I should say two, at least. While we honor and love our own institutions and Congregational method of working, we cannot shut our eyes to the facts that other societies are in some things even wiser in their day and generation. The Southern Methodists are working with us in this place and we think some of their methods are admirable. One is, personal supervision by the Board, of the work. Before even undertaking work here, two ladies of their Board visited the mission, laid their plans accordingly, and have now after some time, purchased a fine garden property on which to erect their future buildings, and have sent four lady teachers to establish the school. These ladies keep house, thus having a ladies' home separate from the resident missionary, and are prepared to push things. There is one teacher for music, another for English, a third who has taught in the Spanish for eight years, and the fourth seems at present to be the house-keeper. Of course there is not enough work for them to do at first but they are learning the language, becoming acclimatized, and getting in scholars by every known means, private lessons if desired, included. This they can do, while building up their school, because they do not feel that terrible *pressure* which urges our teachers into the work with a foreign language, and new climate to contend against before they are at all able to take it up and which undoubtedly, accounts for so many breaking down in health so prematurely. If one of these teachers is unable to continue her work the school will not suffer materially, there will be so many others to fill in the gap, while under our system, of one teacher, the result in such a case is disastrous, and extra work for which she is unfitted by practice and preëmpted time will fall upon the missionaries' wife. These teachers are expected to send in monthly reports of their work. They come to do a definite work and are expected to give definite reports of it, and that too it seems to me tends greatly to the furtherance of the work. You dear people at home *trust* us missionaries too much. You send us out without directions and expect that we will always do the very best we can whether you call us to account or not. We thank you for your loving confidence and wish that we were always deserving of it. But we realize our weakness and feel sure that just as in school the monthly examinations act as a stimulus to the little folks, so to us "children of a larger growth" a resumé of our work would be for the betterment of the work. Some of us need holding back, others need urging forward. Some are self-distrustful and need encouragement, and others are over confident and need cautioning. I do not know that any such system of supervision could be introduced into our work, but at least, the advisability of sending the lady missionaries out in pairs might be feasible. It may seem at first like incurring too much expense, but in the end, I believe that the contrary plan will prove "penny wise and pound foolish." If the work is worth doing at so much cost of money and self sacrifice, it is certainly worth doing thoroughly and well. There can be no doubt but that it is better for the school to have at least, two teachers: and now, how about the teachers themselves ? Have you not sometimes thought of the lonely hours even the most consecrated ones must have at times, when there is no companion at their side ? They are not one with the missionary family, however kind and thoughtful its members may be. The heads of the family are "each others' own best company," and a sensitive soul will feel it, while too often the exigencies of sickness, of little children and over-burdened mothers will draw upon the sympathy and the strength of the conscientious teacher to the utter detriment of her legitimate work. The woman's heart cries out for a home and that may be had where there are two to make it. And two Christian homes in a place are better than one: they are two centres of light and love, and just so much more good can be accomplished. So I would like to add my vote to the number that already have enrolled themselves on this side, as strongly in favor of the sending out of the laborers two and two. For five years we have tried to get along here with one teacher in charge of the school. It is now three months since we have had two and the school now seems to be on a firm basis for the first time. And yet, not so very firm, as Miss Prescott is only 'lent' to us at great sacrifice on the part of her cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Case of Parral. But while she is here we can but rejoice in it. Miss Dunning devoted daughter and loving sister in her own come, has many of the qualifications that especially fit her for the position of house mother which she now occupies. She conscientiously tried to carry the school, while not a trained teacher, the last year, but it was breaking her down and when at the end of two months' vacation she was not so fit to go into school as at the beginning, and had to be sent off to the mountains of New Mexico at the very time of the opening of school. Matters looked blue indeed, and for a month I had, besides the home which had been my care for a year and a half, the care of the girls in school, as well. It was then Miss Prescott came to our aid, as she could leave the Parral school which is primary, in the hands of a native teacher trained by herself. I wish you could know and appreciate this good missionary of the W.B.M.I. Small, slight, and delicate looking, she has wonderful endurance and a self denying spirit that few possess. Early thrown on her own resources she has taught since she was seventeen, and is a normal graduate, therefore, admirably fitted for the training of the girls in this central school. In the two years and a half that she has been here, I do not think she has taken one day's vacation properly so called. When she closed her school in Parral, she went to one of the two country schools at the out-stations. One was fifty miles distant. She went all the way on horseback, instructed the native teacher out of school hours, (including lessons on the organ) took direction of the school and carried it through public examinations, at which the president of the village and the town council were present, and which they pronounced highly satisfactory. They took the school under their patronage from that day: it is however, now closed, through the marriage and removal of the teacher, and is one of the schools that must be supplied from our first graduates. The name of the place is Zaragoza. It is one of Mr. Case's out-stations, and there is a native Church there. The money that was appropriated for that school is now being used to pay the teacher who takes Miss P's place in Parral. If the present arrangement continues we shall have to ask you to "adopt" this school in addition to the other two, as soon as we have a teacher ready for it. The other place where Miss Prescott took her Summer vacation of two months is Las Cuevas. There she taught a school of twenty-five all day, and had a class of six young men every evening. Sundays, she was S.S. superintendent, teacher, preacher and everything. She was the only American in this little hamlet of Mexicans and lived principally on milk, which she fortunately is fond of. Mr. and Mrs. Case are now in the same place helping the people to build a Church and I happen to know that Miss P. has given a whole month's salary to help on the work. That is the sort of stuff she is made of. I wish there were many more like her. While the matter of her coming here was under consideration, she wrote as follows: 'I am very anxious to do my duty. I should enjoy the work with the school in Chihuahua, as there are larger pupils. If, in a year I could bring two teachers from there to Las Cuevas and Zaragoza, I should feel that my year was well spent. .....I am drifting, wondering in what port I shall soon find myself.' Her cousin, Mrs. Case, showed the same unselfish spirit. She wrote that she "felt like crying every time she thought of Cousin Nellie's going to Chihuahua," but still she was so anxious to have the greatest good accomplished, that she was glad to have her come. It has been a godsend to us; to me personally, and to the work. My own health has not been good this fall, and it would have been simply impossible for me to continue in the school as I had been doing. Miss Dunning is thriving on the change of work and we feel that our school is in safe and competent hands. We do not look for a great numerical growth but aim to make this a normal school, for sending teachers to our country places. We think we are quite ideally placed, all in the same "compound", yet with the school establishment entirely separate from our own. Mr. Eaton's study and book-store are conveniently near to the school, (one of the front rooms of the house), and every morning we all meet in the school parlor for prayers. There are eleven boarders, and they are noticeably for their neat, bright appearance. Mr. Eaton's parents are visiting us, and they are struck by the fact that their hair is always brushed neatly and their faces bright and shining, were early in the morning. For nearly all of these dear girls I have worked to get their parents' to consent to their coming, a and I feel very near to every one. We are all near enough together for mutual cheer and consultation, and yet enough separated for privacy and separate lines of work. The house was enlarged and re-modelled in the Spring, partly with money that had been advanced for renting a house for us on the hill (which we had to leave and sub-let) and partly by Mr. Eaton and myself contributing. We asked for no appropriation but the boarding school, and one of the teachers are inadequately provided for. It is to provide new dormitories, (three large ones) and a teachers' room, and a newly arranged school room on the other front of the property, where are now the room used for Chapel, and the school room, that we need the $1500. so kindly granted. We cannot go to work immediately, as we should like to do, because we must have a house of worship for the congregation while tearing down the old; but Mr. Eaton will push matters as fast as possible.

I am aware my dear Mrs. Hume, that I have not answered your questions about the new schools, but I promise you another letter very soon with all the particulars I can gather. I think your head would ache as well as my own, should I try to write any more to night. May I ask you to be so kind as to send this letter to Miss Child as I have been wanting to write something of the same purport to her for some time. I was interested to hear about the Bridgeport movement and again promise to write soon. Mr. Eaton is expected home to night from a visit to one of these schools, and will bring fresh information.

It seems as if you had too much to do: can not some young person be found to act as scribe for you ? I did not mention in its place that we are in urgent need of that other teacher to be learning the language, and ready to take this place if Miss P. goes, or to go to Parral in case the former mains here. She must be a teacher, and a consecrated one.

They are not easy to find, are they, dear Mrs. Hume ?

As ever your devoted sister in Christ---

(Signed) Gertrude C. Eaton.

Chihuahua, Mexico.
Jan. 4th. 1892.

Dr. N. G. Clark-

Dear Sir;

Your letter reporting $150.00 from the Woman's Auxiliary in Montclair, for me, was duly received. This, and all other sums you have been & will be receiving from Montclair, are simply the payment of pledges made before I left there last March. They are not all paid yet, especially one large sum of $500.00 which was promised to me at the close of the farewell talk I gave one Sunday morning. The friends there have been very generous, that is, individuals, for the $2000 pledged was given by individual friends in pledges of (generally) not less than $100.00 each. Mr. Bradford hoped to make a move by which he should secure considerably more from the congregation in general, giving opportunity for small sums to be contributed. He has probably not seen his way clear to do so yet, but I hope he will, for we do not see where the $2000 is coming from to finish paying for the Church.

We are enjoying it more and more, and wonder now how we ever got along without it. We do believe the Lord will bless us in the use of it, for the conversion of many.

We hope sometimes also, that it may be His will, through the Board, to furnish us with

Chihuahua, Oct 30/90.

an appropriate home beside it. We do not wish to seem selfish or grasping in the matter, and if we believed it would really be for the advancement of His Kingdom here, we would be willing, I know, to live not having where to lay our heads. But we have thought much & earnestly about that question, and believe we can do more lasting and better work from a Christian home as a centre, than in any other way.

For four years now, we have made a part of the girls' boarding school. You may remember that we voluntarily left the pleasant and healthful home the Board had furnished us, and where you visited us, to begin this work, there being nobody else to do it, and it seeming to be the "next-step" for us. I believed I was clearly led of the Lord in doing it, and am glad and happy that there is to-day, a flourishing girls' school here, which would not have been had I not come. Still, had I seen all that it would cost me, I doubt whether I should have had the courage to begin. We always feel as if you were a father to us, dear Dr. Clark, and so I come to you to know whether you think we have earned a home of our own, now that at last, the school has its two teachers, assistant-teacher, matron and servant. Is it not well enough equipped to stand alone now? It would seem not, since I still give the music lessons, and furnish dinners to the two ladies. You know I have always had one or more of the missionaries in my family, since I have been here, with the exception of the year before I went to the States. I have not complained of it, nor do I now. I have been glad to do what I could in that way to help, and all of them have been most kind and considerate, and not in the least inclined to make any trouble. Still I think you must feel yourself that we should enjoy being by ourselves, after ten years; and just as long as we are in the same building there will always be something we may do, which we should not feel happy, therefore, in leaving undone. To say nothing of myself, it does seem as if Mr. Eaton had enough to do, without having to look after stoves, and partitions and broken bedsteads, in the boarding-school.

I believe that if the school were put to the test it would find it could walk alone, even though it has been carried in arms for so long. We feel very much strengthened by Miss Holcomb's coming. She is very capable, and will soon be taking direction of things, I think.

I have written to you frankly, as to a father, in the hope that, if the question comes up, you may be able to use your influence in favor. Wishing for you a Happy New Year - Sincerely yours

Mrs. Jas. D. Eaton

Jan. 4 1874

Ambulance

—

A house for the Ealion

Mrs. Gertrude C. Eaton 170

Recd Feb. 23-

Montclair, New-Jersey.
Feb. 21st, 1892.

N. G. Clark- ✓

Dear sir,

Your letter of Feb. 13th
s duly received, and appreciated.
can to-day send you very good
s as regards the work in hand.
iss Holcomb's appointment was
deed long delayed. It seemed
most as if the Committee had
ade the mistake of supposing
r to be the new teacher for
e Juarez theological training
hool, rather than for the
ihuahua boarding school for
ls. I, knowing her to be an
ceptionally earnest and con-
crated Christian worker, with
ecial qualifications for work in
exico, have watched the case
th interest, and rejoice to

know that the Committee are satis
as to the soundness of her position
It had been our thought earl
that she might be released from the
school here in April in which c
I planned to delay my return
a little (planned for the mid
of March) in order to go with h
But it seems best that she
finish out her year here, and th
take the Summer for rest and
quiet preparation not joining
our mission till next September
after the heated term is pass
As there is therefore no reas
for my delaying I have conclu
to hasten a little my departure
in order to meet Mr. Eaton in
New Mexico, whither he come
for a Conference early in Mar
and so reach home in time
for the Spring Conference of our

sion, March 27 - Apr. 3d.
y plans are all made for
rting next Wednesday, the 24th.
xpect to spend a week from
day in Roscoe, Illinois and will
t Mr. Eaton Friday of the next
k in Las Vegas, if the Lord will.
I spoke some farewell words
s morning in Dr. Bradford's Church,
h is coming up grandly to our
h. They take Mr. Eaton as their
sionary and have pledged
eady over $1500 towards the
r Church. Mr. Bradford hopes
secure the needed $3000.00 if
may be permitted to do what
long been in our thought,
dicate the new building as a
morial to my blessed mother.
Will you please let me know
our own thought in the matter.
. B. announced to the Congregation

this morning, that the Church
when completed, would be held as th
property of the American Boar
In addition to the new missi
-ary the funds for the buildin
and considerable interest awaken
in many directions there are fifty t
yards of rag carpet, made by the the
mission circles of ~~the~~ New-Haven
Branch, since October, to be shippe
for our new rooms, destitute of
any carpet. I have every reason
be very glad and thankful.
I am much "comforted" in leavin
home & friends & dear son and
feel that I can trust them all
to our Father's care. My sister is
decidedly stronger than whe
I came home, though not so
I think my father is now
quite willing, that I should
return to the work we love, b

which he himself has come
take a live interest.

I may add that I met
young lady in New-York very
nderfully fitted for our work.
has taught five years in a
nal school in Central America
d knows the language well.
tis only a year since she became
Christian and she may be led
offer herself for this work.
e name is Miss S. P. Felton.
hould she be appointed, it would
n best that she take the Chi-
uahua school and Miss Holcomb
t to Miss Haskins' aid, as she
especially a Kindergarten teacher.
All, however, depends upon
iss Felton's decision and acceptance
the Board. I am abundantly

satisfied with matters as they
are, but should be grateful if
we could find reinforcements
for Hermosillo & Guadalajara
as well as Chihuahua.

Mr. Eaton is well—writi
of very large meetings on a
recent tour, and I believe we ar
on the verge of a great spiritual
blessing.

With very loving remembran
of our visit with you, and
hope for health and strengt
in the year to come—

Yours, very sincerely,
Gertrude C. Eaton

171

Chihuahua, Mexico.
April 30th, 1892.

Dr. N. G. Clark;

Dear sir;

Your kind letter of April 14th was duly received. It contained the first intimation I had had, that Miss Felton had decided that two years more were necessary in the U. S. before she could think of the foreign field. From her letter to me, I had judged that she was considering the possibility of coming this fall. I regret that we shall apparently, have to make our plans without reference to her, but presume it must be for the best.

I have written to Miss Holcomb that we no longer count upon Miss F. I have also written her that I hope she will not let the pressing need, or anything that I may have said to her, unduly influence her, as I believe the strong opinion of friends should have its weight. I have advised her writing to you for advice, in view of the opposition she encounters from home. We shall be very glad indeed if she is clearly led to come, in spite of friends, or what would be better, with their consent.

From what you say of Miss White, I should fear that she would consider our work rather small & slow, after the stirring life of Japan. It would also be a question whether our high altitude might not be quite as trying for her nerves, as the climate of Japan. However, if Miss Holcomb fails us, we shall have to consider some one else. At our annual meeting two or three were spoken of as possible candidates, and we hear more recently of a lady in Trinidad & H. Col, who is looking this way. However, these all seemingly, like the Arabs, "fold their tents, and as silently steal away", upon closer investigation. The matter is in the best of hands, and it must surely be the Father's good pleasure that the right one shall come, some time–

Thank you for kind interest in our sweet Dorothy. We are now rejoicing in her better health, which with her returning appetite we hope may soon be re-established.

With kindest regards for yourself and family,

Sincerely yours–
Gertrude C. Eaton

Chihuahua, Mexico.
Rec'd Aug 6-1892
Ans'd

172

Chihuahua, Mexico
May 24, 1892.

Dr. N. G. Clark;

Dear Sir;

I write you this morning immediately upon receipt of a letter from Miss Felton, thinking you may be somewhat puzzled by receiving her application, in view of the fact that Miss Holcomb has already been appointed to this school.

We are very glad indeed, that both the ladies are coming, and would suggest, that no attempt be made at that distance to assign them their respective places on the field, but that they be simply appointed to the Mexico Mission, with the understanding that they come first to this City. Miss Holcomb can do little more than study the language, wherever she is, for the first six months, at least, while Miss Felton, with her knowledge of the language, can take right hold of the school where Miss Prescott leaves off. In six months' time after their coming, (which time Miss H. will be getting ready to work), we shall have our annual meeting, with "distribution of forces". At that meeting, the missionaries in conference, knowing something of the qualifications of all the ladies, will be able wisely, no doubt, to assign each her place. It seems probable that either Miss Holcomb or Miss Dunning will be retained here, to work in concert with Miss Felton who seems to have the qualifications of a leader. As both are my friends it would be difficult for me to say which had better remain and after the six months are passed, I shall be better able to do so. We feel, however, that our school would be more nearly equipped as it ought to be, with Miss Felton & Miss Holcomb, both trained teachers, and that Miss Dunning's sterling qualities of faithfulness, sympathy and Christian counsel, must find their appropriate place. This, however, we should not wish to have known as our friendship for Miss D. of long standing, makes it difficult for us to think of suggesting such a thing.

We would also suggest, that only one outfit be purchased, until final disposition of forces be arranged. We will furnish a room to one of the young ladies, as we have done to the other missionaries. Miss Holcomb has already received instructions about outfit, so had better proceed with it.

We are indeed thankful at the turn affairs have taken. I will write to Miss Felton similarly. I think you will be as glad as we, when our school is finally settled.

Very sincerely yours. Gertrude C. Eaton

Chihuahua, May 24, 1892
Rec'd May 31

Chihuahua, Mexico.
Feb. 1st, 1893.

Dr. N. G. Clark:

Dear Sir;

On our return from the Conference in Guadalajara last Wednesday evening, yours of the 11th ult. was awaiting me, with other letters.

I thank you very much for your kind interest therein manifested. You will have received news of the Annual Meeting before this perhaps. We enjoyed the trip and the Conference very much, and I personally, am indebted to the ladies for making it possible for me to go.

You will notice that the question of a separate dwelling house for the missionary in Chihuahua was brought up, and referred to a Committee of three, Messrs. Case, Bissell and Wright, for consideration. They reported in favor of asking the Board for a sum not to exceed $3000 gold, for purchase of lot and erection of house next to the Church. One of the younger brethren, however, objected that this present property was so large that it might be divided between the School and residence, and another Committee was appointed to visit us on the way home, and plan for such changes. The Committee consisted of Messrs. Crawford, Bissell and Olds. You may have already received their report.

By the changes which they propose to make, to cost $1200 gold, they will provide

for ten more boarding pupils, and a room for the matron. They however, thus deprive the girls of their sitting-room, in which they sew, read, study and receive visits, an almost indispensable feature of the school. Nor do they allow for any other teacher, which it is very probable the school may need before long, if it is indeed to become the Normal School of this northern field, as is proposed. In four years the school has grown from four boarders to nineteen, adding about five a year. At only the present rate of progress, two years will suffice to fill the enlarged quarters. The present plan also, leaves the school without any supply of water, (the only well being on our side of the property,) and thus makes it necessary for all the water used to be brought. As the girls do their own washing, this will be considerable.

The dwelling house is also deprived of one of its rooms, and the carriage house. Of this, however, we make no complaint. We are so happy in the Church, that we are quite willing to live *anywhere*, and our present residence is a very convenient one. However, no division of the property can ever prevent that the occupants of the second-story dormitories shall look right into the back yard of the residence, or that the noise of the children

at play, shall penetrate the house.

I can not but wish that it were in some way possible for a representative of the Woman's Board to help decide the matter, since it is the ladies who are largely interested in this matter. I felt that it was an incongruity that no lady was put upon the committee. Were this whole property left to the school, there would be room for growth for many years, without any change.

The rent of the house the Board granted us, will expire next October, and it does not seem an unreasonable request when we ask simply, that another house be provided.

We shall accept whatever decision may be made, as all for the best, and are particularly anxious that our brethren in the Mission be equally pleased.

Miss Holcombe is the teacher par excellence. As soon as she has the language she will assume direction, but will need considerable help with the classes. Miss Dunning is not a teacher, and would be glad to be relieved altogether. At present, both ladies are in school nearly all ~~a~~ school hours.

Very cordially yours.
Mrs. James D. Eaton.

The writing has fallen to me, as Mr. Eaton is so busy with his accounts.

+ Mrs. Eaton's letter
about the house &
the school.

Feb. 1. '93

Mrs Eaton 174

Chihuahua, Mexico.
Feb. 22nd, 1893.

N. G. Clark -

Dear Sir;

Your kind letter
Feb. 2nd was duly received,
d your thoughtful consideration
our wishes was much appreciated
y us both. I did not reply
t your suggestion because in
letter Feb. 1st, I had fully
tated our views. As, however,
o further word has as yet come
om you, I fear that my letter
ay not have been received.
Treas. Ward speaks of your not-
ing at home, which may be
explanation of your silence.
I trust that ill-health is
ot the cause of your tem-
orary absence, and that you
ay soon be again at your

post. Mr. Eaton is feeling very tired — the result of long-continued uninterrupted work, ending with the semi-annua balance sheet, I suppose. I hope that with care, he may be able to build up before the heated term begins, that is always so hard fo him.

The $10 from the childre mission band of Montclair reported by yourself, is in p -ment of the pledge made them a year ago.

You will doubtless rejoi with us upon the receipt of $3 towards paying for the Church, $250 from Miss Caroline Phel -Stokes of New-York, Presbyter and $5-0 from Miss Stewart-B of the great banking fam an Episcopalian. A friend of

ers is living here, through whom
we were able to interest
er in the work. The Lord has
lped us wonderfully thus far,
nd we can not doubt Him
ow.

We have the best of news
rom our dear boy, so that altho.
r hearts long for his presence,
e are comforted and grateful
his noble life.

With many kind wishes
r yourself and family -
I am gratefully yours -
Gertrude C. Eaton.

rs. Jas. D. Eaton.

Chihuahua, Mexico.
March 24th, 1898.

Dr. N. G. Clark,

Dear Sir;

Your favor of March 16th is to-day received. We are sorry for the perplexity into which our request for a separate residence has thrown you, and thank you for your kind interest, while regretting, as you do, that nothing decided can be done. It may be something of a relief to you to know that we will not press the matter any more at present, as the state of Mr. Eaton's health will not allow of his undertaking any extra work of building this year.

The school is indeed, sadly in need of more room. Two weeks ago, four more boarders came into it, three of them paid for in full, and others are coming. Perhaps we can give up room after room, as they are needed, limiting ourselves to close quarters, until such time as our need of a residence may become more apparent.

The letter Mr. Eaton wrote to you, was the last he has written. It followed an unusually hard week of meetings in Atotonilco and Jimenez, where the "first fruits" of the gospel were gathered in, five adults being baptized. He began to feel badly while there, but kept up about a week longer. He has had a run of malarial fever, which though now broken, has left him very weak and spiritless. I have attended to all letters

We hope that you may be yet able to secure the help for us that you have in mind. The work of the Board has been immensely strengthened in this whole State, by the building of this Church, at so little cost to itself. Surely the most important thing is now, to see these two buildings paid for. In comparison, the matter of residence is of small importance. How can the debt in Guadalajara be successfully carried, if Mr. Howland is to be transferred to El Paso, as he says is to be the case? While, at our annual meeting, it was the thought of all, probably, that sometime Mr. H. should be at the head of the Training School, a speedy removal seemed to many of us, premature.

We are much surprised that your letter makes no allusion to the matter of the revised estimates for the current year 1893, about which we are all naturally interested to have the opinion of the Committee. Other missionaries are asking ~~me~~ my husband as treasurer, what they may expect, and ~~I~~ he has no authority to tell them what their salaries are. Our dollar continues to be worth only about sixty-five cents American currency.

Trusting that you will not find our importunity wearing, and hoping for better news before long— I remain yours cordially,

Mrs. James D. Eaton

etc. for him. He has worked much too hard for a long time, especially this last year, when the building of the Church has been added to his other anxieties and work. He *needs* a rest (his trip to the United States was in no sense a rest:) and certainly can not undertake any extra work at present.

In reply to your inquiries; Mr. Eaton's "quiet room for study", is an exceedingly useful room as an office, though hardly ever "quiet". No other room in the house could be as useful. (2) It is probable that some arrangement could be made for supplying the school with water, but not by connecting it with our pump. It would have to be granted by the City, and would be very expensive if allowed. The only other way will be to buy all the water needed by the school.

(3.) The house on the hill to which you refer, has changed hands, and been converted into a match-factory; it could not be had, nor would it now be satisfactory. We do not know of any house now to be had that would answer the purpose.x One might be built, but that can not be done now.

4. A letter from Mr. Howland has just been received, stating that the amount to be raised for his Church is $1,100. That for ours is $1,500, after all pledges shall have been paid, — about $500 less than at last report to you. These sums are in U. S. currency.

x See page 4.

Mr. Eaton wishes me to enlarge a little more on this matter. What I had in mind was that there is no house to be had near the Church, that would answer. Houses can be had in the City for from $35. or to $40.00 Mexican money, but you will probably agree with us, than it would not pay to go to the trouble and expense of moving for only a little while. If the Board will entertain the thought of renting a house, friends may perhaps be found to help in building one next the Church, that would meet every need.

G. C. E.

March 24 1893

R. L.

Chihuahua, Mex.,
March 25, 1893.

Dr. N. G. Clark;

Dear Sir,

This may be considered as a supplement to my letter of yesterday, which must have seemed sufficiently long to you. But after it had gone, Mr. Eaton reminded me that it might have slipped your mind, that the amount of money necessary for providing a separate residence would naturally be provided by the *Woman's Board*. All this property, with the exception of Prudden Hall is now the property of the American Board, and if it is left for the use of the boarding-school should be paid for by the W. B. M., or at least, to the amount necessary for providing a residence for missionary family.

Again, I wish to say, that the interests of the school and the teachers, demand *quite as much* if *not more* than our own, that they should not be cramped by a division of this present property. That point, which I have tried to make plain, seems to have been lost sight of. Our own dwelling-house, with such a division, would be more satisfactory than the school residence could possibly be. The health of the school must be considered, and building more rooms, and two-story, will cut off sun and air

that are imperatively needed for health. The teachers too, need to have something of a home life apart from the school, which they could not secure on the other plan so effectually as by having the whole house.

On this Saturday, all the school has gone to spend a day in the country, and the delicious quiet of the house, brings to mind freshly, the desirability of a house. I think I have already mentioned that no division of the property can ever protect us from the noise of the day-school, which strong nerves can indeed, endure, but which is most trying to a sick man, and breaks up needed sleep in the day-time, as Mr. Eaton now finds.

The rather exceptional condition of our family, no children for a number of years, and then a little girl, has alone made it possible for us to reside here up to the present. Mr. Bissell, with his family of boys, could not have done it, and we sent away our dear son at least a year sooner than we should have done, had we had a home of our own. We now desire to bring him back for a year, but are detained from so doing, by the same reason.

Not to weary you longer, dear Dr. Clark, I will only add that we are not willing, with our present light, to plan for a division of the property either in justice to the school, another missionary family who might be sent here, nor ourselves. We would rather bide our time and await clearer guidance than to do that which might seem clearly to be a mistake within a short time.

You ask which side of the property the residence fronts upon. Upon the lower, the upper being occupied by Prudden Hall - school-rooms below & dormitories above.

Also you inquire about supervision of the school property. All legitimate supervision of the property which would fall to Mr. Eaton as treasurer, could be done without extra trouble, did he reside in another house.

I am happy to say that Mr. Eaton seems to be gaining a little, these last two days. We even begin to hope he may preach again, at least once in the day, before very long. He will have to take up his work slowly, however. Perhaps you do not realize what a great drain the mere matter of the treasurer's work is. That, with touring and superintending colporteurs are a man's full work, without anything more.

Very respectfully yours -
Gertrude C. Eaton

Chihuahua, Mar. 25, 1893
Rec'd Mar. 31

Chihuahua, Mexico.
April 13th, 1893.

Dr. N. G. Clark;

Dear Sir;

It seems to fall to my share to send you documentary letters of late. Mr. Eaton has had a return of the fever, and has been quite unable to attend to business for some days.

Sunday, April 2nd, was a very delightful day to us, made memorable by a visit from John Wanamaker, and a stirring address from him, which Mr. E. interpreted. In the evening, at a large union meeting, three were received into the Church, and five more are waiting as candidates. From San Buenaventura we hear of other five waiting to be received, and in every out-station members have been received since the year began. We seem to be ready to reap a harvest; and it is particularly trying to have Mr. Eaton ill just now. But he did too much on Easter Sunday, and other succeeding days, with the afore-mentioned result.

I would acknowledge letters from you of Mar. 21, 27 & 30. & April 5th. The first, in regard to a residence I partly replied to. As apparently, nothing can be done for us at present, we will try to be patient. You did not, however, make any reply in regard to renting a house for us. Is that, too,
? out of the question? A second matter mentioned in that letter, I will refer to later.

In yours of the 27th, you refer to the Amigo de la Infancia. It is taken by several of our stations. We receive 35 copies, and have for many years.

Your last two letters expressing sympathy in Mr. Eaton's illness, and kindly offering him a rest of one month with help to bear expenses, were gratefully received. We appreciate the action of the Committee in extending this furlough, when it had not been asked. But, if Mr. Eaton is obliged to leave, I fear it will have to be for a longer time. It is the hot weather here that is particularly trying to him, and his present condition is most unfavorable for resisting it. You may remember that in '86, the physicians in Chicago told him he must not remain here through the heat, but must spend the three or four months of heat at the North. He wrote to you that rather than be absent so much, it would seem better to give up the work, but you kindly responded: "I brought your suggestions in regard to a vacation in the Summer, as based on your medical advisers opinion, to the notice of the Prud. Com. yesterday. They are very hearty in the assurance that they desire you to take such vacation as you deem best. They will leave it to your own judgment. It would be well, however, as a matter of form, that you notify us from time to time of your wishes in this regard." Date of the letter Aug. 4th, 1886.

We have been very glad not to avail ourselves of this permission once, but by changing our residence to a cooler portion of the State (, where comforts were nil), two Summers, and remaining all the other years in this City, to be able to keep steadily at work in the cause that we love, probably as much, at least, as those who help us to live here. After ten years of labor here, the four months vacation granted Mr. Eaton last year, was but a brief respite, and so crowded full of work that it was no rest.

We had a visit from our old Dr. who has left here, on Tuesday. He was emphatic in his opinion that Mr. Eaton should go home for two or three months not returning here until the rains began, in July. Mr. Eaton's parents, living in Roscoe, Illinois, a quiet country place where he could rest much better than in a boarding-house in New Mexico, are very desirous that he should go there. We should consider it a calamity to have to leave this promising work at this time, and are praying that the Lord may order otherwise. We propose taking a trip here in the country, as soon as Mr. Eaton is strong enough, which may include a visit to San Buenaventura, in the hope that it may prove sufficient change. The Dr. says we shall only be losing time; but we feel led to make the attempt. The meetings are being kept up at the Church, though for four weeks Mr. Eaton could not attend them. The brethren lead some of them, the Methodist minister has helped, and through Holy Week we had union meetings largely attended — and sometimes the sisters lend their aid. The day that Mr. Wanamaker was with us, there were 154 present at Sunday-School. But it would be a serious thing to have to leave, altogether.

In regard, therefore, to a period of rest for Mr. Eaton, we would say that we will defer the time of taking it until the hot, (I should say the hotter weather, for we are now having real summer weather) weather is upon us, and that if Mr. Eaton's health is such as to demand it, we shall have to ask the Committee's kind indulgence in extending the furlough to cover the heated term.

Ap. 13/1893 —

The other matter of which I wished to speak is in reply to a bare suggestion from you that we may be asked to take up work in Guadalajara. But my letter is already so long, that I will defer a matter, of so much interest to us, till another time.

Your perplexities must be great, in view of the financial pressure. I presume it is only fair that we should take our turn with the rest, in being crippled: but it hurts. Very respectfully, Yours

Mrs. Jas. D. Eaton

Chihuahua, Mexico.
April 22nd, 1893.

Dr. N. G. Clark;

Dear Sir;

Your letter of April 7th, relating to Miss Felton was duly received, and will be sent to Mr. Case as you request. We know nothing of Miss Haskins' plans. There is not likely to be any vacancy here at present. We had supposed that Miss Wetmore was to remain in Hermosillo. It would seem that Miss Felton's special qualifications fitted her for one of the two important schools. I hope she may be secured for our work. I am sure she will be very useful.

After my last letter to you, in which I said that Mr. Eaton would need a longer rest than a month, he grew weaker rather than stronger, and last week it became evident that no half-way measures would answer, but that we must get to "green fields" and native air as soon as possible. Therefore, without waiting for further word from Boston, we have made our arrangements to leave for Roscoe, Ill., next Monday. Mr. & Mrs. Olds have come in from Cusi, and will probably locate here for most of the time of our absence. Their touring work is practically suspended for a time. By the insurrection in the Sierras which makes it a favorable time for them to be absent.

Mr. Wright will receive and disburse funds.

Cordially yours-
Gertrude C. Eaton

Address: Roscoe, Illinois.

Rec'd Apr. 28.

Gertrude C. Eaton.

Roscoe, Illinois
May 2nd, 1893.

Dr. N. G. Clark. Rec'd May 5.

Dear Sir,

Your very kind tter of April 28th, reached us yesterday, and gave us great pleasure. On the day it was written, we ached Mr. Eaton's home, after an nusually prosperous and pleasant ip of four days, or part of four. We seem no longer very far from ne.

Mr. Eaton, after the first day two, really seemed to gain on trip. I provided myself with alcohol lamp and every- ng that was necessary to re for him his hot food at oper intervals, so that we e quite independent of the ng stations.

the change into this cool, no
to say cold, atmosphere,
has had a beneficial effect upon
him as the Summer heat
of Chihuahua was very debilitat
to him, in his weak state.
It is good for him to be whe
his mind, as well as body,
can rest, and where he is
beyond the demands of mail
and mission work, clamoring
to be attended to.
We shall always gratefully
appreciate your anticipative
kindness in the matter, i
which indeed, we also see-ver
plainly, the "good hand of
Lord upon us". It is so goo
that now that he __needs__ th
rest, it is made possible
for him to take it, through
the considerateness of the Boa
and the presence of this quie

home within easy reach. It is
matter for gratitude, that
the Board for which (or rather
with which), we work, is a cor-
poration that *has* a soul.

Mr. Eaton hoped, when he
left Chihuahua, that he might be
able to return in July, when our
rains are expected to begin, and
the worst heat is over. Since I
aw see that he has already
egun to improve, I begin to hope
e same thing. In the mean
ime, it is a great satisfaction to
now that Mr. & Mrs. Olds are in
places, and Miss Mary Wright,
o has been for some time with
brother in El Paso, is with
for two months, and will
s be company for Miss Dunning
Miss Holcomb leaves for her
ation.

It seemed almost a providence

to Mr. & Mrs. Olds that they were no
wanted in C. just at this
time, for their touring work 'on
been effectually stopped by th
insurrection in the Sierras, st
even Cusi may not be entir
exempt: while Mrs. Olds was g
to that state, when a change,
the society of Americans, w
do her great good.

Mr. Eaton sends his kindest
remembrances. You will excu
a letter written on ordinary
note paper. As I suppose
you will not need to pres
it. I felt more at liberty
use the only paper at han

Very sincerely yours-
Gertrude C. Eaton

P.S. We appreciate the cordial ed
item that appeared in the May
and which we ~~hope~~ suppose was penned
yourself. May it bring many response

Roscoe, Illinois.
May 19th, 1893.

Dr. N. G. Clark;

Dear Sir;

Your very kind letters of April 18th, (to Chihuahua), May 5th + 12th, and still another that I can not this moment find, have all been rec'd. Your cordial approbation of our course has been a great satisfaction to us, and we thank you for your ever fresh interest in our welfare.

The good effects of the move upon Mr. Eaton are plainly apparent, and fully justify the wisdom of your action. In thirteen days, since last weight, he has gained six pounds, and looks like another man from the one that started from Chihuahua four weeks ago. He has conscientiously avoided any excitement, such as meeting interesting people, attending minister's meeting in Beloit, or even Church, which *is* stirring to any one so deprived of Christian fellowship as we are. I think he may soon, however, begin to mingle with people more, without any harm, perhaps benefit to himself. He now hopes to return to his work in July, if the rains begin opportunely: but it will be best, as you suggest, to make haste slowly, and store up a little strength for the years to come.

In regard to Miss Wright: I knew that at the beginning of the El Paso school, Mr. W. was very desirous that she should be appointed as his assistant: but Mr. Hord objected. At the time of the Guadalajara Conference, Mr. W. told me that she would be glad to join our mission if she could do her special work, that of training Bible women. It will be a long time before there will be need of any one's being appointed especially to that work in Mexico. Miss W. remarked to me that she wanted to see Cusi, to consider the advisibility of opening a day school there, that she did not feel equal to taking a boarding school again. But I do not think the missionaries would favor sending an American teacher to Cusi, till we see what is to be the outcome of the place financially. We have an excellent Mexican teacher, one of our best, who has promised to go there in August, if needed. To a suggestion made by someone, that Miss W. might join our mission, I replied that Dr. Clark had written that the Board did not feel justified in sending any new missionaries at present. Personally, I was much pleased with Miss W., the little that I saw of her, and she gave a very interesting address to our Sunday-School, which I interpreted. It might be rather difficult, however, for one of her age to learn the language, and it would seem better on that account that one like Miss Felton, or Miss Stahl should join us, who can go right to work.

But, if we are going to be so limited as to funds, we shall ask not to have any more missionaries sent for the present. It is appalling to think of the reduction made necessary by the appropriations allowed for next year, out of which, though a thousand dollars less than this, two new missionaries are to be supported.

I can not write anything definite about the work in El Paso. Mr. Eaton was pleased at the progress of the boys when he was at the school in December, and Mr. Crawford expressed

P.S. We are made to rejoice by the unexpected gift of $250 from Mr. Rogers. I am to thank the ladies of that Church at their Silver Rally, June 1st. We are praying that Mr. Wanamaker may be moved to help us.

himself the same way, after Conference. Miss Stahl could give you more reliable information than any one else and I think she would be willing to do so. All the missionaries would be very glad if Miss Stahl could join us. A great many of our Church members have migrated to El Paso, and when we were there in December, the meetings were largely attended, mostly by our own former members. I believe Mr. Wright does not ordinarily have much strength to give to Church work.

I sometimes feel that it is very hard to know just what my duty is. My sister's health is such, that I feel that I am much needed in Montclair, and yet, my own home, and the work, in Chihuahua, seem to have almost a prior claim. Could the two homes be combined for a few years, it would seem to be a happy solution. But as yet, no way opens by which this may be accomplished.

Mr. Remington's article in Harper's Weekly, is quite fair. The poor people of Mexico have suffered much, and as is usual in such cases, feel that a change of gov't will give them relief. It is however, probable that no better man than Diaz can be found, at present.

Very sincerely yours
Mrs. Jas. D. Eaton.

Mrs. James D. Eaton
Roscoe, May 19, 1893
Rec'd May 22

Chihuahua, Mexico.
Jan. 26. 1894.

Dr. N. G. Clark-

Dear Sir;

I was very glad to have a letter from you, and especially so, because of the news it contained of a special offering from the friends in Gorham, Me. I have already acknowledged it, expressing my thanks and at the same time suggesting to them the perpetuating of a "Gorham" scholarship in our "Colegio Chihuahuense", for the benefit of other girls, when Zenaida Poblano shall have become a teacher, as she very soon will.

She is a remarkably fine girl, an excellent scholar, & active member of the Christian Endeavor Society, always ready to lead a meeting, read a selection or make a translation from the English for a missionary meeting. She is also one of four who form a choir to lead the singing, and the best player on the organ that we have. We entertain great hopes that she may have a useful future, and think the friends in Gorham may feel well pleased with their protegée.

Your message to Misses Dunning & Holcomb has been delivered. I think they will have an encouraging report to give you. At an examination held early this month, all the pupils did very well, especially the five of the first class. An examination in U. S. History, question + answer in English was admirable. The number of day scholars has run up to forty-six. Miss Holcomb proves to be the right woman in the right place, and her great interest in the school and all that pertains to it, is sufficient proof of this. We wish she were stronger; but with her limited strength she accomplishes more than many who are stronger. Miss Dunning's is the strongest religious influence in the school, and she is the director in the affairs of the house.

No doubt Mr. Eaton will write you more fully about the El Paso School, since you so desire. With the small number of pupils, and no enlargement possible another year, it would seem very foolish to locate two missionaries at that point.

Mr. Eaton's nervous system is not in as healthy a condition as we could wish, and he has to hold back from much aggressive work we long to see done. I think he will have to be careful as hot weather comes on. The annual meeting is to be held here the last week of May, or first of June.

Mrs. Howland writes that Miss Haskins expects to be back about this time, and plans to stop in Chihuahua on her way. She will be warmly welcomed, here.

With sincere wishes for your health & happiness
Mrs. J. D. Eaton

Chihuahua, Jan. 20. 1894.
Rec'd ~~Jan~~. Feb. 2.

J. L. B.
Rec'd 7-25-96
Ans'd 25

Chihuahua, Mexico
July 18th, 1896.

Dr. J. L. Barton;

Dear Sir;

Some of us are wondering very much why we hear nothing from Boston, in regard to making good the deficiency in the girl's school in Guadalajara. Just after our annual meeting in April, I wrote, in behalf of the W. B. M. missionaries there present, to Miss E. H. Stanwood, urging the filling of the vacancy in that important day and boarding school. On May 27th, I wrote again, in reference to the fitness of my cousin Miss Long, to be appointed to that school, either as a teacher for this year, or as a missionary, should she be encouraged to make formal application.

Miss Long would have made application before the annual meeting, had it not been for the discouraging word that "no new missionaries would be sent out." Miss Hammond and Miss Dunning wrote also to Miss Stanwood, and recently, Mr. Howland and Miss Haskins wrote, urging that she be sent to them. No answer at all, has been received.

In your last to Mr. Eaton you spoke of Miss Olds having made application to be appointed to Mexico. Can you now tell us whether she has been appointed , and whether her appointment will make it unlikely that Miss Long should receive a position?

I presume that the letters already written can be read by you, but will say briefly, that Miss Long has gained a good working knowledge of the language, in the year and a half that she has been with us. She has had a year's experience in our school, (besides what she had in the U.S.), has been no expense to the Board for either outfit or transportation, while she has rendered invaluable service to this school.

It has been the great desire of all of us at this station, that she might be retained here, but lack of funds seems to make that impossible.

It is very necessary that she should know soon, what to expect, and I respectfully submit this statement to you, hoping for a speedy reply.

Very sincerely yours -
Mrs. James D. Eaton.

Chihuahua, July 18, 1896.

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J. L. B.
Rec'd 8-7-96
Ans'd 9-23

Chihuahua, Mexico
Aug. 1st, 1896

Sec'y James L. Barton,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton-

Your letter, telling of the approval by the P. C. of the appointment of Miss Long as teacher in the Girl's School in Guadalajara, followed one from Miss Stanwood in regard to the same subject, within a few days. Miss Stanwood explains her long delay in answering by your prolonged absence from the Rooms.

You would seem to imply that my first letter should have been directed to you, and not to the Woman's Board. This matter of there being two Boards, is rather perplexing. I am a Woman's Board missionary, supported by the New-Haven Branch, and so were all the other ladies whose views I was deputed to report to the Woman's Board. We naturally thought we should direct our petition to the Board that supports us. Mrs. F. E. Clark also advised our writing to Miss Stanwood.

Mr. Eaton and myself rejoice that the way has opened for our cousin to enter upon the work, in a more assured manner, than she has yet done. At the same time, we regret exceedingly, that her field of work must be

Chihuahua, Aug. 1. 96.

somewhere else than here, where she is so useful, and so much beloved, in school and in the congregation. We had not quite given up the hope that she might yet be retained here.

It is, as you say, a very providential thing that she is on the ground, and so well prepared to help in the work. You will doubtless hear from her personally. She is now in Guerrero, in company with Miss Hammond, visiting our missionaries Mr. & Mrs. Wagner.

I am glad to be able to say, that our Summer congregations are not only holding their own, but growing, and we are very thankful to be able to keep at work, hoping for rich returns.

It gives us great joy to know that you are even thinking of taking a trip to Mexico. It is our hope that nothing may prevent your coming soon. I think your presence might help in deciding some of the perplexing questions that confront the mission. We shall be most happy to receive you in our own home, which will soon be ready for occupancy. Our son, Howard, who has just graduated from Beloit Academy, and had for his essay, the subject of "Mexico", looks forward to entering the same work to which we have given our lives. "Mexico for Christ" is the motto of our C. E. Societies, and of all of us, who love her people.

I trust that Mrs. Barton is now better.

Very cordially yours -
Gertrude C. Eaton

Samuel W. Eaton

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Chihuahua, Mexico,
Nov. 3, 1890.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Secretary A.B.C.F.M.
Dear Sir:-

As I have spent the last month with my son at this place, and have been an interested observer of the work of the Board here, I will take the liberty to say a word in regard to the impressions which I have received.

Although I had been in constant correspondence with my son I was not altogether prepared to find so prosperous a city. The buildings recently erected, the one hundred electric lights, the public schools adopting improved methods, &c. indicate that it has a future as well as a past. The activity of the Southern Methodists in providing buildings for church and school, and furnishing a native pastor and four teachers, indicates that such is also their estimate.

It is indeed a remarkable providence that a central and commanding site for a church, as eligible as any in the city, and distant only one block from the present property of the Board, can be secured.

As Chihuahua occupies a somewhat metropolitan position in Northern Mexico, it would seem important, with reference both to the work here and elsewhere, that a good church edifice should be erected. Any thing less would belittle the work.

I regret that my visit here has detained me the meeting of the Board, and also from the meeting of western corporate members which Mr Blatchford invited at Chicago, but I am pleased to know that it is the general opinion that by the action at Minneapolis the decks were cleared, and that the coming year promises well.

I am

Yours sincerely,

Samuel W. Eaton

M. Lizzie Hammond

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Miss M. Lizzie Hammond, 5

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Sept. 24th 1897.

Pp. 2-3, 6-8

Chihuahua, Mexico.

James L. Barton D.D.

J. L. B.
Rec'd 10-1-97
Ans'd
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Dear Dr. Barton.

Your letter was rec'd the day after my return from Mexico City, and I have wanted to answer it more promptly, but there has been so much to do in connection with getting repairs made and house in order generally for the reopening of school that I have not found the right time for writing to you. I wish you had helped me out by asking some questions. I feel as if, your having seen Dr. Eaton so recently, and heard through him of the work in all its branches, as well as through the letters, you must have been kept pretty well informed of the work in our midst. Then too, as we three missionary ladies are all expected to write to

what you want to know - please tell me. Miss Dunning has been quite ill with malaria since her return, but is better, and has been out today.

Mrs Means, as it seems as if ma
repetitions must go to Boston. Stil
I can understand that it is de
ble to get the views "from different
Standpoints." And I think perh
I need your letters more than you
need mine. I was glad that Dr. Eat
could go to Boston and talk with
you "face to face." (As you already
know I was the only missionary a
this station during the Summer, sin
naturally, I felt more care and
responsibility than usual. It was
my privilege to lead the "Woman's
Meetings" which meet every Tuesd
afternoon, (of wh. Mrs Eaton has char
when she ~~was~~ is here), and I have en-
joyed them very much. Many of the
women can not read, and I think
sometimes that they feel less free to
"take part" in the meetings, when all
boarding girls attend, as they know
they have daily Bible instruction, and
are accustomed to "taking a part
~~but~~ we usually feel that the absen
of the girls in the Summer vaca
is felt very perceptibly in these
meetings, but the women were very fa
ful every week, notwithstanding that
we have had a very hot Summer
and oftentimes it required conside
courage to go out in the Sun at 4 o

i the afternoon. You probably knew
rough Dr. Eaton that, one of the El Paso
tudents – Federico Ponce – (whom I
onsidering one of the most earnest
hristian young men among all the
udents) was stationed here as predica-
tor, he and his sister came to me two
venings every week for help in their
tudies. Another evening I spent with
r day pupils (who do their best during
ummer vacations to sing in the choir
place of our boarding girls) practicing
hymns for Sunday morning
nd evening services, which with
r regular weekly prayer-meeting,
ept my evenings so fully occupied
at I did not find much time to be
nely, if I was alone in this great
mbling house.) I had hoped not to
ave Chihuahua till Mr & Mrs Eaton
hould return, as we all felt before they
ent away that it is not wise to leave
e Station without any missionary, but
his return was delayed, and it did
ot seem well for me to begin another
chool year without some change,
or I had a very hard year's work last yr.
etting "the first class" ready to graduate,
nd without Miss Long's help, the
issionaries tho't I had better go
away for a little while. We here in
hihuahua are so far away from

cool climates, and pleasant
"resting places" that ~~x~~ it is always
a perplexing question to know how
get a helpful change. It is a very
expensive trip to Mexico City, but o
in which there is the most to be
had for one's money, and as exchan
was very high, I thot it would be
justifiable in view of accomplishin
what I have for a long time wan
to do, viz.- visit the various Normal
Schools- Public and Private- (or
mission); Miss Long met me at Sil
and we spent two delightful week
together. We visited the Government
Normal School, which is one of th
finest institutions of the kind, I
know, It has over 1000 pupils
(fr. all over the Republic), and
100 teachers. As I worked so man
yrs. with the Presbyterians, I was v
glad to see their Normal School,
and delighted to see a corps of
efficient teachers- composed al
entirely of their own graduate
Mr Brown teaches one class and
Rev. Arcadio Morales teaches the
Bible classes wh. of course is a g
help to the Principal. Then we

isited the Episcopal School which
doing a noble work under the direction
Miss Driggs - whose brother is a medical
issionary in Alaska, and the Meth-
dist Normal School which is
ery large, perhaps too much so
r the best good of all. It did not
impress us as favorably as the Meth-
odist Normal School in the city
f Puebla. That has the reputation of
being the best established of all Mission
Schools in Mexico. I could not begin to tell
ou of all the interesting incidents of our short
visit in one letter. We rec'd many very
kind and enjoyable "attentions" from
esbyt'n, Episcopalian, Methodist and
apt. missionaries, and made a special
fort to attend at least one service in
ach church. Miss Driggs, Miss Long,
Bapt. friend and myself took a
arriage one afternoon and drove
t to Tacubaya to visit the National
bservatory and see Mexico's great
telescope, it made me long for
n opportunity to use it in the night
exico is one of the 16 stations of the
world which are making constant
observations to be sent to the next

Paris Exposition! Well I must
leave Mexico. I know you are
anxious to know whether in comp
our own School I felt most
dis or *en* couraged. I saw man
ways in which we can do better
for our school. and some ways
in which our school is in advan
Of one thing I am sure they h
no more promising girls down th
than we have up here. And consid
the fact that none of these
Normal Schools which we visite
is so poorly equipped for teache
(or with teachers), or with a buil
so ill-adapted to its use, I am su
that our work compares favora
(Our "97 trio" are all teaching,
and I anticipate for them a
year of noble work in the th
different towns. We would prefer
to see Josefa in a christian
school, but as her father was
determined to have her accept
this position in a Government Sch
in Casas Grandes, we can bu
hope that the Lord will

ep her close to Himself and
se her to His own glory. She
an not teach religion in the
school but there will be
many ways daily in which
she can having a strong
influence as a christian.
The request came through a
gentleman whom Miss Long and
I met last Summer when we
visited Casas Grandes, and
at whose house we were enter-
tained. But the appointment
had to be made by the Gov.
here in the capital, and on
my return from Mexico City
he sent three representatives
(from the City Board of
Education) to make inquiries
about Josefa. I gave them a
copy of our "Testigo" containing
her graduating essay to take
~~to~~ the Governor &c. and he
sent the appointment the next

day. I almost tremble for he
She is sure to have many
temptations. I feel like asking a
Christians in the home-land to
pray for her, that she may sta
firm, She is only 18 yrs. of age, an
young to start out in such a pla
Miss Long and I were the first evan
ical missionaries who had ever vis
the place. Mr Wright and the stude
have been there this Summer, and
says * it is the most fanatical pla
they visited. I shd be very glad i
you would feel like writing to
Josefa, she understands English
and it will do her good to kn
that our Boston friends are prayi
for her - and expect her to "Shine
for the Master" as she is so capab
of doing. Her address is

Señorita
Josefa Madrid -
Casas Grandes,
E. de Chihuahua.
Al cuidado de
Señor Portillo. }

Jesusita Montoya is going to help
Miss Burris in Batopilas - and
Lidia Romero is to commenc

COLEGIO CHIHUAHUENSE.
CALLE GOMEZ FARIAS, NO. 9.
Maria L. Hammond,
Directora.

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6-7-'98

Chihuahua, Méx., May de 1898

Dr. James L. Barton.

Dear Dr. Barton.

I was glad to know by your letter that my reply to your questions was at all satisfactory, for we write so many "Society letters" during the year, and seldom hear of them afterwards. It did me good too to have you manifest interest in our precious Library, and say "I think I shall be able at different times to send you books, and may be able to turn some money your way for making the library more useful and helpful." I presume that you have rec'd a copy of the School Report which I made out for the Conference in Parral, ere this and as that contains latest information about the School I will not repeat. I feel that we have had, on the whole one of the best years of work there has been since I came, notwithstanding it is so unsatisfactory not to be able to stay through till June. Mr Eaton has written you of the Dr.'s advice in fact the two American Dr's are agreed, but did not

COLEGIO CHIHUAHUENSE.
CALLE GOMEZ FARIAS, NO. 9.
Maria L. Hammond,
Directora.

Chihuahua, Méx., ...de 189

agree with one of our Mass. Dr's who was here last month, and whose opinion I have reason to value highly. I certainly hope they are mistaken but I do not want to run any risk, and presume it is wiser to go North for the Summer. I hope to come back "as good as new." And if I must go I am glad to be there in May and June. I hope to learn many new things to help me in my work here next year, when we hope to graduate another class.

My address for May and June will be
5636 Morton St.
Germantown. Penn.

If my R. R. tickets can be arranged for I shall probably start May 9th. The Texas & Pacific R. R. give reduced rates to missionaries, but I am not sure of other roads as yet, I feel that I must go by the most direct and economical route.

With kind regards, in which Miss Dunning would wish to join if she knew of my writing—

Yours very truly—
M. Lizzie Hammond.

Miss M. L. Hammond, 187

J. L. B.
Rec'd 7-11-98
Ans'd

Chihuahua, May 7, 1898.

Dr. James L. Barton.
Dear Dr. Barton.

Your kind reply to Mr Eaton's request for my "vacation in the States" was duly rec'd and I have not intended to leave it so long unanswered. Just at that time I was very busy arranging all work for a new program, trying to get everything planned ahead so that no part of the work should suffer by my absence from it. Dr. Eaton has probably written you of the changes which are being made in our School building, and wh. seemed to necessitate vacating the dining-room and kitchens, so that it was necessary to reduce the size of our family- and I found that by crowding a little during April and giving the final examinations to our older girls it was possible for them to go to their homes the first of May, and so would be possible for me to come North before the hot season should set in. Ever since I came North have made everything bend to getting myself into better condition for going back. Have not even visited any of my family yet. One of my brothers met me in Pitts going on to Philadelphia and spending nearly two wks. with me, until I had had opportunity to consult the Surgeon who had been recommend by Dr. Thayer of Clifton Sp

nd friends who knew about
me. It seemed best "all in all"
o try the "treatment" which I
m following out here, and
am in hopes that an operation
ay not be necessary. My general
alth has not been better for
everal years.

n will pardon all this
bout myself. I felt that it
s due you to know where I
u and what I am doing.
will be very hard for me to
back to Worcester even for a
ing visit, now that my dear
ther is no longer there. But I
l that I must go to see
Grandma before my return to
Mexico, probably the latter part
next month. I should like to see
on and if I know that you are
in Boston at that time will

plan to go in to Boston some day.

With appreciative thanks for your kind wishes in my behalf—

Very truly—
M. L. Hammond.

July 8" 1898.
Drew Seminary.
Carmel, N. Y. (through this month and probably a part of next).

Miss Mary L. Hammond, 188
9-13-98

Worcester, Mass., 22

Sept., 10th 1898.

Dr. Jas. Barton.

Dear Dr. Barton.

Inclosed please find Dr. Warner's statement. He said most emphatically that he "does not think an operation advisable", thinks I am "doing as well as could be expected," but that this heated season has not been very conducive to rest, and that it would be better for me if I could remain North through the Fall. I told him of my desire to return just as soon as is consistent, so he mentions two months, as you will see. But Mrs Aldrich wants it extended through November. Even the I could get back to Chihuah in time to release Miss Burris so that she can begin her school in Bat pilas the first of Janua if it still seems best for her to return there. It does not seem as if it is best or right.

I have been to see, and have my eyes examined by Dr. Berr today. He is thought a great deal of, as an oculist, here in Worcest I expect to return to

Germantown the first
of the week.

When you write again,
will you kindly tell me
how long before hand it is
necessary to write to Boston
or New York about my
tickets, if reduced rates
can be secured for me?
When I came, Mr Wright
could only secure reduced
rates as far as St. Louis -
I have already had so
many expenses this Summer -
that I very much hope
it may be possible to
secure better rates when I
return.

Very truly -

Mary L. Hammond.

461 Locust Ave.,
Germantown, Phil., Penn.

Miss M. L. Hammond

J. L. B.
Rec'd 12-5-98
Ans'd 8

v. Jas. Barton D. D.

Dear Dr. Barton.

When I saw you in Boston I thought to be on my way to Mexico ere this, and as you can understand it has een a great disappointment to me that it has not seemed best for me to return to my work this Fall, but I have felt very thankful that our School could be so well provided for in my absence. As the Drs. whom I have consulted and my friends (here and in Mexico) all seem to think that I ought not to return and resume teaching this Winter or that it would

be wiser to rest from teaching
for the entire School year.
I feel that I ought to listen
them, much as I desire to be
ack at my post.
I should have written to you
sooner but wanted to get the
ense of the Mission circle in
Mexico first. They write that
Miss Burris can remain through
he School year, altho' she feels
e burden of responsibility greater
an she had expected to do,
s she had never had any
experience in advanced work or
in directing other teachers.
Miss Burris herself has
ritten "Miss Hammond I had
no idea how much you had to
do, you have earned all the rest
and enjoyment you can have"
I am so glad to hear of the
ncreased interest in the Church

rk, through the extra meetings
onducted by Mr Morales.
Mr Wright wrote me that three
r four of the students were
ttending them from El Paso.
I have enjoyed Dr. Gregory's
Lectures at the University and
commenced the course given
by Dr. Budde, but was not able
to attend all of them.
I am now expecting to join
my brother in Pittsburg for
the remainder of the year.
I do not yet see just what the
Lord would have me do, but
He has led me thus far I am
sure, and I trust that His way
will be made clear to me
in due time. As it is sixteen

Germantown, Phil.,

until week after next when my address

will be 548 Neville St.

Pittsburg. Penn.

years since I have spent an entire Winter in the North, I expect I shall "feel the cold weather", but the cold does not seem to effect my throat, in fact the Dr. told me that it needed rest more than medicine".

I shall be glad to hear from n as soon as you can find ime to write. ~~Of course~~ I do not pect that my full salary can be continued as it was oted to do till end of calendar ear. Of course my board and running expenses have been a ontinual "out-go" ever since came North and must be until return, were it not for this cessity I should prefer not to ccept any money from the Board.

Yours sincerely
M. E. Hammond.

3" 1898.

Miss M. L. Hammond, 190

J. L. B.
Rec'd 12-19-98
Ans'd 19

548 Neville St.,
Pittsburg, Penn.,
Dec. 16th 1898.

ev. James L. Barton D. D.
Dear Dr. Barton.

You kind favor of the 8th inst. reached Germantown after I had left there. I spent a week with a friend in Baltimore, en route for Pittsburg, reaching P. night before last.

I thank you for your prompt attention to my letter, and sincerely appreciate the kind interest manifested by yourself and those who voted upon the he certainly needs our prayers.

I can not tell how long I shall be in Pittsburg. It seems to be "one step at a time". But I will let you know of any change, for the present my address will be here.

Very Truly -
M. C. Hammond.

question of my having a furlough.

In regard to the monthly allowance granted by the Woman's Board it might be sent the first of each month, if that is satisfactory all around. I presume you have heard the good news from Chihuahua and the rich blessing which has come to our work there, in connection with Mr Morales' meetings. Mrs Eaton writes that While they are receiving such howers of blessing, the enemy has been sowing the tares in the Guerrero field, and our faithful orker José Ibañez is having a hard time. We had hoped he would find a responsive field, and better health in Guerrero, for the Batopilas climate has been so hard for him.

Miss M. L. Hammond, 1915

J. L. B.
Rec'd 1-4-99
Ans'd

548 Neville St.,
Pittsburg, Penn.,
Jan., 2nd 1898.

James L. Barton. D. D.

Dear Dr. Barton.

Your beautiful New Year's card is at hand, and I feel as if my "thank you" will be uttered more than once during this new year, for I am going to put it in my Bible. There I shall, I am sure, often read and reread it. That "abiding peace" is certainly the richest blessing we can desire or hope for.

In return, it is my prayer

[illegible] Tables [illegible]

[illegible] if you will look at the [illegible]

I feel that Bernard ap by the [illegible]

and economical basis.

Willis Pasuk

which Louis Dunning [illegible] [illegible]

of the laws of my writing - [illegible]

and earnest desire that you
and yours may enjoy
the same.

Your note of Dec. 20th was
duly rec'd, and Dr. Eaton has
sent me the bal. of my year's
acct with him.
You have probably known through
him that they were expecting
forty new ones to unite with
our church there yesterday.
What a delightful opening
of the new year! We certainly
ought to take courage and
press on.

Very sincerely yours –
M. L. Hammond.

Re

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Miss Mary B. Hammond

Rec'd 2-9-97
Ans'd 9

Rev. James L. Barton.

Dear Dr. Barton.

I am expecting to go to New York for further "treatment" a week from today or Wednesday at latest, but am not quite sure of my address, I had hoped to be able to secure a room at the "Margaret Louisa Home", but have just heard, to my great disappointment, that they will have no vacant rooms until after Easter. I have written to know if they

can recommend any pla
for me, and as soon as
know where I am to be
will let you know, as
have taken the liberty
tell my friends (at a di
tance) that they may
address me in your car
feeling sure that you w
kindly forward any let
I shall always want to
you know of my whereab
I wrote to Miss Stanw
as you suggested, som
two weeks ago, but ha
had no reply. I have d
pended upon receiving
appropriation, as in ca
I were to go to The Mary

usa Home", I should have
pay in advance.

I do not anticipate that
shall need to go to a
ospital, but in case it
ere to be necessary, I
ould prefer to have such
n ordeal over before the
arm weather begins, so
in good condition for
eturning to Mexico at end
this School year.

Very truly yours
Mary L. Hammond.

548 Neville St,
Pittsburg, Penn.
Feb. 7th 1899.

Miss M. B. Hammond
548 Neville St.
Pittsburg, Penn.
Feb. 10" 1899.

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L. B.
-15-99
15

v. James Barton D. D.

Dear Dr. Barton.

I write to ask you if our Board has Rooms in New York, where I could leave one of my trunks if it should seem best for me to remain some weeks? I think now that I shall not get away from Pittsburg before Wednesday, so a reply will reach me here if you can ans. by return mail — You will thereby greatly oblige.

Yours very truly
M. L. Hammond

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Miss Mary L. Hammond

J. L. B. Rec'd 3 29 99

Clifton Springs, N. Y.
March 27" 1899.

. Jas. L. Barton, D. D.

Dear Dr. Barton.

Your kind letter f the 15" was rec'd the lay after we reached Clifton. came with much less fatigue han my good Pittsburg hysician thought I could, y brother came with me, o that I got along very nicely, notwithstanding I had een so unfortunate as to burn y right hand quite badly few days before leaving. I think I have gained a little every day since I came, and am convinced

that it was a wise thing
for me to do to come here, at
least, for a few weeks.
I am now under Dr. Th
care, and he thinks I sha
be all right to return
my work in Mexico ag
as I had planned
do. Of course it takes
weeks to recover from
an illness as I had
Pittsburg. I thank you
your kindness in forwar
my letters to me, think
have rec'd all that were
sent to New York.

I wonder if you can
me if there is an endo
Congregational room
There are three Presb^n^ ro
and I understand

hey are occupied by mission-
ries all the time. One is fully
ndowed, and the others partly,
o that the occupant has
nly to pay $5.00 a week.
I am boarding in a private
amily outside, the little walk
does not hurt me, but it
hinders my taking the evening
reatments" which are a help
or insomnia.
There are fourteen or fifteen
missionaries here, whom I
enjoy meeting every day.
r. Mc Nair Jr. Japan preached
i the Chapel last evening,
d Mr Crosby - a Canadian
issionary - spoke on their work
mong the Indians of B.C.
st Wed. evening.

Very truly yours-
Mary L. Hammond.

Miss Mary L. Hammond 4-26-99 195

Rec'd. MAY 15 1899

THE SANITARIUM COMPANY,
Clifton Springs, N. Y.

April 18th 1899.

Rev. Jas. L. Barton D. D.

Dear Dr. Barton.

Many thanks for your prompt and kind reply to my letter about the endowed room. Miss Abell, as you probably know, is already here. Were there another room I should feel that Miss Torrey should have it. But am glad that it is arranged for her to be in the "Annex". I see her at Chapel, but she is not as yet, able to mingle with the other missionaries as we wish she could, and hope she can soon. Mr Porter tells me that he expects to leave Clifton the first of May, I hope he can realize his desire to return to his field by Fall, he seems to have made friends

here, in and outside of the Sanita
rium, and, I think, all are imp
with his bright, earnest spirit.
I had not known of "Miss Miller
breakdown in health," until your
letter came, and am very much
surprised, not having had an
intimation of it. In her last le
to me she made application f
one or two of her pupils, whom
she wishes to have enter our
Boarding School, and added
that she should hope to brin
them to Chihuahua. I am mor
sorry than I can tell; it see
to me a case of "the saddest
of all it needn't have been."
I hope her case and that o
Miss Burris in Batopilas w
serve to convince our Missi
that it is not right to lea
missionary teachers to work al
The question has come up her
why so many Missionary tea
break down? One of the Missi

from Canada suggested that our Boards can learn something from theirs. She says their missionaries are required to go home every five years, whether they wish to or not, and that they are not allowed to do any "lecturing" or address meetings; until they have had a six months' vacation; that all travelling expenses are paid &c. &c."

I wish so much that I could see you to talk over School work in Mexico, before I return. Do you expect to be here at the I. M. U. meetings in June? I had no idea of being here three months when I came, but if it is not best for me to return to Mexico till Summer, as long as I have to board somewhere, it is better to be here where I can have "treatments". I am wondering if Miss Miller might not be benefited here. I hope she may be able to return.

Very truly yours—
Mary L. Hammond.

Miss Mary L. Hammond, 196

JUN 13 1899

Clifton Springs, N.Y.
June 12th 1899.

ev. Jas. Barton D.D.

Dear Dr. Barton.

I was glad to receive your kind letter of May 15th, but very sorry to learn that you can not be here at the meetings of the I. M. U. As my object in remaining here is to get all the benefit possible from the "treatments" in order to get into the best possible condition for my return to Mexico, I do not want to

suspend any treatments, an
the Dr. has already cautio
me about attending "too ma
of the meetings, so I thin
I shall limit myself to
one a day and let that
one be the Devotional meeti
from 10:00 to 11:30 A. M.
I am very much better, a
would like so much to
return to my post in ti
for the graduation of ou
'99 trio, and to take Mi
Burris' report before she
leaves the field, also to be
preparing for next year's
work, but it doesn't seem
best for me to go until it
gets a little cooler in Chi
hua. I am hoping to mee
Miss Long soon after her
return North.

They had not written me of
Miss Miller's illness,
ut different ones had mentioned
e fact of her needing help in
he School, and that they felt
he ought to have one of the
Mexican girls to assist her,
and I felt convinced from
all that we heard of the
School in one way and
another that she had worked
hard and faithfully, in
which case I could but feel
hat if the help of a native
teacher would have enabled
r to go on, it seemed a
reat pity that for want of
uch help she should have
leave and the School closed.
know that she did feel
lack of companionship,
ltho' she never spoke of it

in a complaining way.
Mrs Eaton writes me that ou
most efficient Mexican teache
is to be married in the Fall
so she takes it for granted th
she can not continue with
wh. makes me feel crippled,
and in reviewing the field o
School work for the coming
year in Guadalajara and
Chihuahua, it seems to me
that much better results cou
be obtained all around i
we could arrange to unite
our Senior classes in one pl
or the other, we (in Chiª) shall have o
three at the most possibly
but two. I have thought that
it were understood now at
end of this School year th
girls might earn the mon
to pay their travelling exp
to the other city, I have writ
to Chihuahua presenting the

bject for their consideration, nd am about to write to uadalajara. I do hope the day s not far distant when we an unite our forces in ne boarding school as they ave in Spain, and let the y Schools" in the other cities be carried on by the native eachers. I can not now see at it would make much ifference whether the one Boarding School were in hihuahua or Guadalajara. t might cost less to run t in the latter city.

hope you will have this ubject on your "prayer list" or it is certainly a very mportant one, and if it is the Lord's will, He can

remove any or all obstac
that may seem to be i
the way.

I met Miss Torrey i
the Dr's Office this morni
and see Miss Abell every d
we "American Boarders" a
doing the best we can; n
of us have "permission" to
attend all of the coming
meetings. As you say "the
are not very restful." I
know from past experie
I do hope we may have c
weather for Clifton is not
a cool place.

Hoping that you may f
find it possible to be he
for some of the meeting
with repeated thanks fo
all your kind intere

and good wishes -

I am Yours very truly
Mary L. Hammond.

Miss M. L. Hammond,

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C. C. THAYER, M.D.
J. H. NORTH, M.D.
F. W. SPAULDING, M.D.
B. C. LOVELAND, M.D.

C. P. W. MERRITT, M.D.
J. A. LICHTY, M.D.
H. E. BARIGHT, M.D.
MIRIAM GARDNER, M.D.

J. R. BOYNTON, M.D., SURGEON.

The Clifton Springs Sanitarium Company

CLIFTON SPRINGS, N.Y.

HENRY FOSTER, M.D., SUP'T AND TREAS.

JUL 1? 1899
JUL 5 1899

June 30th 1899

Rev. Jas. L. Barton D. D.

My dear Dr. Barton:

Knowing that you wish to know of my whereabouts I write to say that I now expect to go to Cragsmoor, Ulster, Co., N. Y. next week to meet Miss Long, who expects to spend July and August with her parents there.

I am so glad to say that I am ever so much better, and feel that the Lord's and was in my coming to Clifton. I had a good talk with Dr. Thayer last night, about going back to Mexico, as well as going to Cragsmoor - which has an altitude of 2500 ft. - He consented to my going d testing myself without "treatment" &c, on ndition that I would come back here, for t least another month. I had hoped to go back to Chihuahua in August, in order to get-

the work planned out and things arran
for the new Sch. Yr., to begin in Sept. but he discourages th
very decidedly, saying that if I go back i
the hot weather I might lose what I
have gained. I wish I could talk
with you and my coworkers about it,
I want to do what will be best for
the work in the long run, and I think
the Lord will make it clear to me.

Dr. Thayer feels sure that I have
nothing to fear from the tumor, but
says that I have lived at those hi
altitudes (of Guatemala & Mexico) too
long, and that life is responsible fo
the Insomnia, which he wants me
master, he thinks the air of the B
hills may be conducive to sleep.
If it is the Lords will that I stay
here until Sept., then it will be be
for the School not to reopen until Octob
I shall hope to hear from you how it
seems to you. I expect to leave her
early Wed. morning.

Very truly—
M. L. Hammond.

I fear my letter is not very perspicuous. I meant to
that the plan is for me to spend July at Be
and return here for August. M. L. H.

JUL 14 1899
JUL 1 1899

"The Wawbeek,"
Cragsmoor, Ulster Co., N.Y.
July 12th 1899.

s. Jas. L. Barton D.D.

My dear Dr. Barton:

Thanking you for your kind reply to my letter, I would like to ask if you can tell me whether or not I ought to have a R.R. ticket or "Permit" for reduced rates and to whom I should apply for the same? ind that other missionaries have had something of the kind. nderstand that the "N.Y. Central" akes no reduction, but from Oneida ame here on the "N.Y. Ontario & estern R.R."

Miss Longo's coming has been elayed for a week, for some

reason which we do not yet
understand, so that I reached
Cragsmoor a week in advance.
We are expecting her day after
tomorrow. This is a magnificent
country, I have been sleeping much
better already. Clifton is a pretty
hot place in Summer.

Dr. Spaulding called on
me the evening before I left
Clifton to inquire about Miss
Miller and her work in
Mexico, it seems he was her
physician at one time, and he
ad remembered her with
interest, but had not known
her recent 'resignation'. As I
ave never met her but have
en, very favorably impressed
her letters, I was glad to
now more of her from one who
such a true interest in Missions

nd missionaries as does
r. Spaulding.

I have written to Chihuahua
bout the seeming advisability
f my remaining North until
ometime in September.

With many thanks for all
ur kind interest and good
vishes - I remain

Very truly
M. E. Hammond.

M. L. Hammond,
Cragsmoor, July 12, 1899.

Miss M. B. Hammond

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C. C. THAYER, M.D.
J. H. NORTH, M.D.
F. W. SPAULDING, M.D.
B. C. LOVELAND, M.D.
C. P. W. MERRITT, M.D.
J. A. LICHTY, M.D.
H. E. BARIGHT, M.D.
MIRIAM GARDNER, M.D.
J. R. BOYNTON, M.D., SURGEON.

The Clifton Springs Sanitarium Company.

CLIFTON SPRINGS, N.Y.

HENRY FOSTER, M.D., SUP'T AND TREAS.

Aug. 19th 1899.

AUG 20 1899
AUG 23 1899

Rev. Jas. L. Barton D. D.

My dear Dr. Barton.

Your kind reply to my letter of inquiry about R. R. rates, reached me at Cragsmoor and I am corresponding with Dr. Creegan about my return ticket to El Paso. I had a nice visit with Miss Long and returned here last week. I hope to go back to Chihuahua about the middle of next month. I know you will be glad to meet Miss Long and I hope she may be able to give you such a good idea of our educational work as carried on by the two Boarding Schools in connection with our Mission in Mexico, that you in turn may be able to help us by your suggestions. It is a great disappoint-

ment to me not to go back to open Scho
in Sept., but I suppose Dr. Thayer may be
correct that it is better for ~~my~~ me not
to resume work until the hot weather
is over. I heard yesterday that they
"have been having roasting weather"–

I send letter to Miss Long in your
care – not knowing her Aunt's addr

Yours very truly –
M. L. Hammond.

Miss Mary L. Hammond, 200

SEP 1 1899
DEC 27 1899

THE SANITARIUM COMPANY,
Clifton Springs, N. Y

Aug., 29th 1899.

Rev. Jas. L. Barton. D., D.

Dear Dr. Barton.

Your letter was rec'd in due time and would have rec'd a more prompt reply but that I was unable to see Dr. Thayer long enough to have his final examination until last evening. He has been just "driven" with work this month, and as it was past his supper time last night, could not write a "certificate" then, but said he would write to you. He says now as he did before I went to the mountains that

I am so glad to have you all meet and know Miss Long.

I have written, at Dr. Creegan's suggestion, to Dr. Hitchcock to make inquiries about R. R. tickets; and shall hope to hear from him in a few days.

Very truly -

Mary L. Hammond.

I am probably better than I have been for several years, and while he thinks I might have a longer life at a lower altitude, that if I am needed there I am justifiable in returning to the work, and I think he is right. I certainly feel better and am better than I have been for a long time, I hope the time is not far distant when our forces can be united in one good, strong Boarding School, I believe that more would be accomplished and in less time, for the same amount of money as is expended now. Then if it deemed necessary for one leave the work the School would not, necessarily, be so crippled as it must be, as

Later- You may be interested in a letter from Dr. Nichol a Scotch Physician, who graduated from the University of Edinburg has visited our School. from yea to year and knows of its progre Maria Holguin, of whom he speaks is one of the three who graduated in June and goes this week to Matachic to teach, through hi request. She taught there through the Summer last year and gave great satisfaction.

Miss Mary B. Hammond

THE SANITARIUM COMPANY,
Clifton Springs, N. Y.

SEP 1 1899

Matachic
August 17/99.

My Dear Miss Hammond.

I have been very ungrateful in not writing you ere this but will plead the usual good intentions. I was very sorry to know of your illness and hope that now you have completely recovered.

I have at last been able to arrange for Maria HOlguin. She will be here for the end of the month. I am congratulating myself! According to your letter you may now be in Chihuahua or on your road there. I am sure I hope so. If your health permits you, you are just about beginning to reap some reward for your hard work. I know a little about school work and know that the first year or so seems to have been labour spent in vain but at the proper time it begins to give fruit. I think your time has come. The Colegio Chihuahuense is now a power and is respected by the general public more than ever.

If you come to Chihuahua I may soon have the pleasure of meeting you

201

there as I may make a trip in. We are soon going to be civilized in Guerrero, the railroad will soon be there!

With kind regards from Tresa & all of us

I remain Yours very sincerely

Robert Nichol

Miss Mary L. Hammond, 202

SEP 8 1899

SEP 9 1899

THE SANITARIUM COMPANY,
Clifton Springs, N. Y.

Sept. 7th 1899.

Rev. Jas. Barton D. D.

Dear Dr. Barton.

I begin to feel somewhat concerned about my Rail Road tickets as there are only about ten days more before I ought to have them, and so much time is consumed in corresponding about them; on rec'pt of your letter while at Cragsmoor, suggesting that I write to Dr. Creegan about R. R. rates, I did so, making inquiry at same time about "rates" for return to El Paso via Southern R. R. through New Orleans, which he sent me, but on account of the possibility of "Yellow Fever," it ticket" via Washington & St. Louis.

Please excuse my making this explanation to you—but I know you will comprehend the circumstances and in case I do not hear from Dr. Hitchcock, will tell me if I can arrange for the ticket by telegraphing. We are having delightful weather, and I am to return about the same time as I went first to Chihuahua five years ago, the most beautiful time of the year there. We had a very interesting talk in the Chapel last evening on Mission Work in New Mexico by Miss Hays of the Presbn. Board, who is a dear friend of mine, and I have enjoyed comparing notes with her, they have a Boarding School of 60 girls at Santa Fé, and are to have

has seemed best to give up going by
that route. Dr. Creegan advised
me to write to Dr. Hitchcock about
any Rail Roads the other side
of Buffalo, and just after I
had done so, came Miss Childs'
etter (Aug. 25th) saying that
he "had been asked to write me
about rates and to make definite
arrangements." As no word from
him came I wrote again last
week, and rec'd reply from
his clerk that he had been
ut of the city, but was expected
to return this week. I feel that
I must start on the 18th in
order to get through to Chihuahua
hat week, and should have my
ickets or "permits" by last of
next week. It begins to look
as if his return to the city
must have been delayed.
I am hoping to join Miss Long

$3000.00 for an addition to thei
building. A lady here at Clifton
gave the first $25.00 toward
last Spring, and last night sh
doubled it. I hope when I come
North again my throat will n
need resting and that I can
do some work in this line.

Yours very truly-
Mary L. Hammond

Miss M. L. Hammond

SEP 11 1899

SEP 11 1899

Rev. Jas. L. Barton D. D.

Dear Dr. Barton,

Yesterday's mail brot me the letter about R. R. "permits" from Dr. Hitchcock, and from it I see that he does not understand that he is expected to purchase my tickets as I understood from Miss Child's letter of Aug. 25th.

I have found that it will be almost impossible to plan to journey with Miss Long, and as I can have the company of one of the Presbn. missionaries as far as Chicago, by going that way, I have decided to go by Chicago and Santa Fé R. R. to El Paso, leaving here on Friday the fifteenth. I do not yet know what my tickets will cost, but do not

El Paso. on Monday.

Very truly
M. L. Hammond.

Sept, 9th 1899.
Clifton Springs, N. Y.

dare wait longer - before sending
or the money, and I write to
you because I have not understood
whether it is the Woman's Board
or the Tres. of A. B. C. F. M.
hich is to pay my expenses. I
know you will understand
and be ready to help me out
y requesting that it be sent
to me here. I think I had better
ave as much as $75.00, then I
can return what is left over
hen I render my account.
There has seemed to be so much
delay about my hearing from
the Secretaries on account of
Dr. Creegan and Dr. Hitchcock
eing out of the city, that it
eaves very few days now for any
necessary arrangements, but I
rust the money will reach me
in time; our plan is to spend the
abbath in Chicago - then I go on to

F. E. Hammond

204-

Mr. H. E. Hammond, 204

J. L. B.
Rec'd 2-21-99
Ans'd

#548 Neville St.,
Pittsburg, Pa.
Feb. 18" 1899.

Rev. James L. Barton;
Boston,

Dear Sir;

My sister, Miss. M. L. Hammond was taken quite ill on monday last with acute intestinal indegestion" and was consequently unable to go to N.Y. as she had intended. She is quite perceptibley better however, and I believe the Dr.

thinks she will soon be up again - The attack w brought on I think by o Exposure to the cold that a owing to St. car delays & during the extreme weather.

She wished me to acknowledge your kin favor of the 15th inst. and to thank you for your prompt assistance in matters of information &c

She has a good Dr. and nurse and is as comfortable as she cou be in a boarding house under such circumstanc

hope to see her on her
feet again and in a
position to go on with
the plans she had already
made, before very many days.

Yours very truly.

F. E. Hammond.

Belle M. Haskins

205 — 218

Guad, Mex 5-29-'91

Rev N. G. Clark Sec.
Boston, Mass.,

Dear Dr Clark;

Your kind favor of the 11th inst is rec'd. Now I almost wish that "sensitiveness" were the reason of my silence, it would be so easily corrected;- On the contrary I have been wanting these many weeks to write and have not, simply because the multiplicity of present duties consume all my time.

Mean time I have consoled myself thinking that if dear Dr Clark with so large a circle of correspondents heard from two of three in Guad. the silence of the third would, if indeed noted, rather be a relief.

Mrs Howland I think wrote you of the increase of the number of "internos". The usual number of has been six, eight & ten and up to twelve at one time. When I returned there were seven. We began in the Fall of '90 with nine; since then they have continued to come in from unexpected sources, until they number twenty six (26) all told. Of these one, the most advanced pupil in school was married in April; another left on account of illness in her family and another is absent, we hope, for a short time only, so that at present there are twenty three. Of these nine are little ones under seven years; eight ten or twelve, & six from fourteen to seventeen years old.

If you can imagine

these poor, untutored, careless, forgetful quicktempered, impulsive girls, so wedded to and grounded in their bad habits and uncivilized customs, you can easily believe that one person's time can be wholly employed in teaching and personally superintending the various household duties marketing, accounts care of clothing mending, sewing, and "mothering; and when to these are also added regular school duties from 8^{15} A.M. to 12^{45} and from 2.15 to 4^{45} or 5^{45} P. M. two evenings; visitors, and the extras that never fail to make their regular appearance, you will agree I think, that some or all must suffer - especially when letters must be written.

Accordingly I have dropped all correspondence with old friends except by a 'Round Robin" annual letter, ditto to my brothers, writing only once.

a month ~~even~~ to my mother - or every six weeks as is more frequently the case: Reading or out of door exercise naturally cannot be included. It would be very desirable, I think, if I could make frequent calls on the families of my day pupils; but it is simply impossible to take the time, or leave the girls.

"If only we were two"! I cannot help but often wish. I keep hoping that I may find a woman who can do something toward relieving me of some drudgery and care; but the better I am acquainted with the Mexicans, the more I despair:- and I see no immediate prospect, particularly since there is no special work which tends toward getting hold of the women I am now trying to get one whom I can trust

to stay in the house.
Thus far the pupils have
come in without special effort
and if some visiting could be made
each week and we could continue
to receive girls who can pay little
or nothing I think we might expect a
continued increase during the coming
year. Every thing considered, dear
Mr Clark do you not think
that one of the needs, is another
teacher? I certainly feel that I
am not capable of doing all
~~[illegible]~~ for the continued growth
of the school and the best development
of the characters of these dear girls,
and I am more convinced each day
that alone I cannot do my best
work. This need is more urgent
since I am now alone with the
school. Mr Howland will have
written you of the unexpected way Providence
~~[illegible]~~ for us another house
just at this time, it seemed all
the more a direct leading. That the
school be removed from the

open house, which the *mission-house* *must* be more or less, will be a relief and an advantage in various ways. For the Howlands, for their own comfort, and the good of their children, the relief will be equal.

I shall feel the separation more than any one. Were I not so busy loneliness might trouble me. You will be glad to know, that the work on the *chapel* has begun again and is being pushed as fast as possible. We hope that the enemies are silenced. I need not assure you that Mr Howland has exercised special prudence and wisdom in the business from first to last -- The trouble

All of the Americans have
the greatest confidence in
Mr Fowlands ability and
judgment and think he
is sure to come out all right.
But our trust is in the Living
God He will take care."
One of our American friends Mrs. [illegible] Shock
mm Gua[illegible]
is at home on a visit and has
most kindly offered to bring the
Opera glasses for me. She is for Frank-
lin and expected to go into Boston
his month or next. I hope she
ill see you. We had but just
come well acquainted when she
ft and rejoice that she will be
ou whole sympathy and [illegible]
st we can [illegible]
With sincerest wishes that this may find you
I am as ever yours with affectionate respect. Belle M. Haskins

did not result from any lac of care on his part. The best advisers and all, say th no person could have foresee such an exigency. God perm ed this trial we must belie not only to strengthen our fait but also His cause here i this fanatical city.

Three weeks of steady wor has made a good begin Mr Howland is pushing as fast as possible since each days work lessens probability of interruption

I must beg your pardon for send such a sketch but it has been delayed so many days, that I crave your indulgence.

I kept this over another day to add the good news we received yester P.M. Prof. Guevara the gentleman who has corrected the manuscript of this Testigo for several years and is our staunch friend, sent word, that the meeting of the City council, on the 12th inst., the subject of the chapel was discussed with great heat. The prime mover against it finally, intensely exasperated, virtually washed his hands of the affair and withdrew from the council. And, as I understand this body practically decided to drop the opposition. More than this, Prof. Guevara is the committee on Public works.

now and so will have the business really in his own hands; Mr Howland, will as soon as possible give you complete information. You can imagine how busy he must be, when with all his ordinary work, he also must take the place of a Master build by this means saving five or six Dols. per day.

With hearts full of praise and gratitude, we thank God and take courage; Instead of the 22nd Ps. we sing the 124th.

Rejoice with us.

Yours hopefully -
Belle M. Haskins

Rec'd June 22

Guad'jara Mex.
9 91,

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr Clark:

Your kind favor of the 15th inst was a most agreeable surprise. It makes me believe that I shall surely ee her for whom I long, and so much need: I only wish I might see her within three months at the latest.

I should be happy if I had some friend to recommend: I can't think of no one: I have repeatedly asked Mrs Howland if she did not know of one in her circle of acquaintances, and she has not found any.

I hoped to be able to write to some friends who might interest themselves; but the entire vacation has been occupied in preparations for moving, attending to the thorough cleaning of the immense house we left and while, waiting for carpenters and other workmen to get this house into a fairly occupiable endeav-ing to get some order out of the chaotic state into which every thin was thrown by the painting, ceil-

ing and plastering of the school
and my room; I can just now
fairly begin to unpack and arrange.
I certainly hope we may be able
find another house before many
onths, for this must be thoroughly
paired in every part; & this
annot be done while the school is
n session. We have the satisfaction
thinking that we are saving some
ing by occupying such a cheap
use, with all its inconveniences
nd after school opens we can
udge better of its desirability or
contrary. I think I mentioned

Miss Belle M. Haskins. 5
Guadalajara Sept. '91.
Rec'd Sept 19.

a friend whom I thought might come to spend two or three months I am hoping to hear from her b have little expectation of a favorab answer. If she cannot come I sha be compelled to make some provi for classes in English as there will be several paying American pupils.

I have just written to Miss Wingate and it occurs to me to en it to you to read and forward I not add more in regard to the teachers' desirable qualification

With earnest hope that your heal and strength are equal to the heavy strain labors and trying season, I am as ever sincerely yo

Belle M. Haskin

Guad: Mex. 9-29-'91

Rev. N. G. Clark:
Boston. Mass

Dear Dr. Clark: I write to inform you that a friend Miss Amy Reed of La Fayette, Ill, writes that she will come and help me for two or three months. She will leave an invalid mother or might stay longer. She will start the last of Oct. Altho she will not understand Spanish, there is much in English and other things in which she can lend a hand; beside the comfort and help of her presence.

I am hoping to induce another friend to follow for another few months. Both are old teachers and old friends but neither could think of remaining indefinitely. I hope there is some light, ere this, on permanent help.

Sincerely yours.

Belle M. Haskins

Rec'd Oct. 9

Guadjara, Mex.
Jan. 26th 1892

Rev. N. G. Clark,
Boston Mass.

Dear Dr. Clark:- I have been hoping to be able to take time to reply to your favor of Oct 30th - but there is really no time I can call my own in which to indulge in letter writing, save the hours after 11^{30} P.M.- and my precious store of sleep, has been too small, the past six months, to bear diminishing: So that much, as I have wished to write I have from necessity kept silence.

Mr. Howland has perhaps mentioned the school's final change of house, made Nov. 7th. This house is far more commodious and convenient and does not need remodeling, as the other did in all parts. The special disadvantages are, that of being very cold in the winter, and its locality in the lower part of the city, near the river, and therefore in the line of chills and fever; I trust however that care will in the future, as the past, do much to prevent this evil; We have certainly been signally preserved from sicknesses of all kinds;

The number of house girls is at present twenty three, - really ~~five~~ (6) as two are out for but a few weeks and another meals here, but sleeps at home;

I have rec'd applicants for six others, but because we were so full, and they could pay nothing, and I

feared they were least likely to devel-
op into christain girls, tho't best to refuse.
I have hoped each week to hear some-
thing of the assistant to be; Shall I not soon?
How I wish there were any hope of
Miss Reed's stay! She would make a
most excellent companion and teacher!
Such happiness is however, entirely out of
he question. She has an only child's
place to fill, the duty trebled by her
Father's recent death. It is really no
mall sacrifice for her mother to let her
come, and then stay so much longer
than was planned, when she left home.

Miss. Reed learns Spanish so rapid-
ly that by the time she leaves; she
he will be quite ready to take regular
work in Spanish; Her present work

being outside of the ordinary school-
work (classes in Eng. for the American
children, who entered this year) does
not lighten my cares; On the contrar
my house-hold duties must necessa
have some more attention even tho'
she is one of the most considerate
of friends. If no one can come
at once the Eng. Dep't. must be
dropt when she leaves. If Josefa
could be trusted with the other
classes, I could take these special
studies; would enjoy doing so; bu
This is quite out of the question.
If poor Josefa were a sincere
and earnest christain, she would
have developed into a very differen
teacher, as well as woman.

The Kindergarten Dept. has now so increased in numbers, and in grades, that a well trained and good teacher is an urgent need. Josefa's style pleases me less and less. In so small a thing as teaching Bible verses to those who cannot study alone, the effect of the monotonous style is so lasting and hurtful that it is a constant trial; This is but one of many. The chief and most hurtful of all however, is her spiritual condition which seems hopeless. All effort and labor on our part, has apparently no effect: and if it were not, that we simply cannot get along without her, we would dismiss her.

When I think of the many things that ought to be done and can only be thought of - Things necessary not only for the general good of my girls, but for their growth in grace. I am exceedingly discouraged. The responsibility is too great for one, that one myself, and so I am coming more and more to the painful resolution that unless some one comes this year, I shall, in justice to the work and myself be obliged to leave it, hard as it would be.

This thought has been strengthened by recent events. It really seems as if the discontinuance of the work under the A.B.C.F.M. in this section was a matter of a comparatively short time - The Western Mex. Miss-

no longer exists, in name
Our appropriation is reduced now when,
the necessary expenses of the school are greatest;
Our Baptist Friends have just reopened
their school with two excellent
teachers both well versed in Spanish;
Miss Holding principal of the S. Meth.
Seminary in Laredo, and the general
Supt. of their educational work in Mex, in
company with Miss Cutler another lady
of authority are here to purchase property
for a larger girls boarding school
which is to be fitted up and as well
equipped with aparatus and teachers
as is possible with as abundant
funds; So that if it should be
necessary for us to limit or close
the pupils will not be obliged to go
to Catholic schools,

As regards the change I confess to some surprise that it should have been made without giving Mr Howland's equal opportunity with those of the other mission to express his opinion and wishes. Mr Howland is so inclined to be reticent and concise, so averse to writing up his work, or, as it were, air his views, that I have often tho't it would not be strange if he were quite misunderstood and even unappreciated in times; and I have more than once wished for a ready pen to supplement his accounts as they deserved.

It seems to me that in this case his faithful efficient work and great economy all these years, to say nothing of his native ability and judgment, certainly merit the most kindly consideration.

Personally I imagine the change will affect me but little. I trust it will not add to my duties, now too illy discharged. It cannot diminish expenses, for greater economy can only be secured by turning off pupils, as the Howlands can witness.

Dear Dr Clark, I fear I have both tried your patience and greatly wearied you. I really feel guilty - If all in the various fields so impose, you have great reason to complain. We have greatly hoped, your strength would permit you to visit Guadalajara. The time from New York is now shortened to five days even less, The summer season here, far from being trying and enervating is the pleasantest time of the year.

Your presence with us would be an inexpressible privilege and joy. Would we might see you when the chapel is dedicated!

With warm regards and wishes for your continued health-

I am as ever sincerely and respectfully yours

Belle M. Haskins

Rec'd Feb 8

Guadª Mex.

Rev. N. G. Clark 4-18-92,

Boston. Mass.

Dear Dr. Clark

Your last favor came duly and should have received attention from me also, had I not been about with Miss. Reed, according to agreement if she would remain three months longer. When I rec'd Miss. Sherman's letter in regard to the young lady at Northfield, we all thought that surely she was the one the Lord would send us, and I waited anxiously for further word. It seemed to me that her eight years experience in teaching, her training and the course she is now taking were most desira to prepare her for such practical work as she would have here. Since receiving your letter in regard to Miss White, we are quite unsettled: We most certainly do want a lady of culture and talent- We do however realize that there're lovely christians, whose talents and culture do not compensate for their in every direction.

Would that it were possible for us to know what decision or choice to make! We pray that all concerned may be divinely guided, and that no mistake may be made.

We would like to know if Miss White's home is in N. Carolina, and where she was educated.

We think that some Correspondence would aid us, but not knowing the name of one, or the address of the other, we annot take the initiative.

With many and warm regards
I am sincerely yours
Belle M. Haskins

~~Mrs~~ Hastings
Guadalajara, 18 May 1892

lack of practical ability and experience in homely, but ver necessary work. I never so thoroughly realized the value of practical gifts as in my wo during the last few years. Every thing connected with the most ordinary details of the home and the routine of the establishment must be personally and constant superintended.

My girls are as you know from the country, or the poores classes in the city, and must have the foundations laid for th

Guad^a^ 6-23-92

Dear Dr Clark:—

The enclosed letter speaks for itself. We are all getting anxious to hear that the teacher is appointed. I shall keep on this summer more than a month later, not closing school until the first of Sept. trusting that the teacher will be here to begin the next school year.

Miss Belle M. Haskins

Guadalajara, June 23, 1892

Rec'd June 29

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am most sin

yours,

Belle M. Hask

Guad^a, Mex.
Nov. 24 - 92.

Rev. N. G. Clark:
Boston Mass:

Dear Dr. Clark: At the close of our happiest "Thanksgiving" in Mexico: also the tenth Anniv. {of the month of our arrival in Guad.} I must tell you how happy we all are with the presence of our friends who arrived safely the eighteenth.

Miss White and and I are making rapid strides in getting acquainted and I am more happy and thankful than I can say, not only that the long looked for companion has come, but also, that there is good hope that we shall be truly companions and colaborers. We are all well pleased with such a valuable and happy addition to our circle and the work. Her varied experience gives ability to do and advise in so many directions, so that she will be able to aid us all more than we would have ventured to anticipate or expect ~~of~~ a new member. She is already begining to take hold of Spanish and

and shows that she will learn it easily and quickly.

Various hindrances prevented me from beginning school a week ago, as was planned, so the girls are not yet all in, only twenty one have come, but in a week or two more the house will be full. A number of new ones have applied and are waiting to be received if all the former boarders do not return. They were quite as many as the house would hold.

I am very happy to know that there is prospect of buying property for the school and only hope that it will soon become

a happy fact, It would be
an immense advantage in
many ways and to, our wo
as well as economical for
the Board.

Accept more than "mill
Gracias" for those White, and
my sincerest loving respect —

Very truly yours —

Belle M. Haskins

Miss Belle M. Haskins
Guadalajara, Nov. 24, 1892
Rec'd Dec. 5.

Nov 24 92

3

212

Guad. Mexico
Jy 5 75

Rev. N. G. Clark D.D.
Boston Mass.

Dear Dr. Clark! Your last favor is recd and I hasten to send you reply.

Unfortunately an accident destroyed the letter so that I beg your pardon if I fail to give it a fully satisfactory answer. The subject of your letter quite surprised me. The need of withdrawing from the work has not been impressed upon me by my excellent health, the increasing cares of the school, and the long looked for arrival of my companion. Indeed quite the reverse. My mother continues

We have been looking for property
with a view of buying, and also renti
Since it is an impossibility to find a
thing for sale which would not require many
changes and repairs before we could (a school)
We have been greatly disappointed in
renting. After much searching found o
The owner promised to vacate within t
months. When the time came he delay
alleging one excuse after another. Afte
keeping us in suspence two or three
longer, decided that he could not let
have the house. The house we occup
on quite low ground and the dampness
affect Miss White not a little. More
than this, The sanitary conditions of
a part of the house is very bad
and growing worse. An attempt to

emedy it was made in Jan, but unsuccessfully. There is no way without much expense and this the owner is unwilling to expend or permit. Consequently we must move.

I need not say that while I acknowledge the wisdom of the Howlands removal to El Paso, personally it will be a most painful separation. I greatly hoped it might not be necessary. I do trust that God will permit no mistakes. In connection with this I would like to suggest that Mr Howland greatly needs a rest. He is capable of enduring a heavier strain of compounded work, than any of the one missionaries in Mex. He has done the labor of four men and more, in connection with the church building, besides being his own preacher in all our services, it has fallen to him

in fair health and begins to ente
tain some tho't of a visit to Mexi
two years hence if nothing prevents
So that as circumstances are, n
I have no wish or expectation of sending in my
nation.

I do wish, however to ask
mission to visit my mother. She
expressed a desire several times th
year that I could go home for a
time and I am fearful that I sha
always regret if I do not.

We shall probably have our vacati
the months of Aug. and Sept. and th
time I think would be most conven
for the visit. The past two vacation
have been exceedingly busy ones th
feel that entire freedom from these re
sibilities would be very welcome.

to officiate most of the time, at the Eng.
service. and to be the one who is called
upon in times of need, sickness, death
mergencies of all varieties, In connection with
the Vestige, he must also do extra
work constantly - If any one else
annot find time to send their con-
ribution, or takes a vacation, he must
nd time to supply the deficit.
He would be surprised if he knew that
have spoken in this way - His motto
is "The more one does the more one
is able to do" and he would be the
ast one to acknowledge that he
eeded a rest.

I am sorry indeed that this has
been delayed - The sickness and
death of the daughter of the pastor

of the Meth. Church occurred this week. They are very near neighbors and we were able to help both day and night.

Miss White joins me in affectionate regards and says that she hopes to write to you very soon.

Most respectfully yo

Belle M. Haskins.

Guadalajara, Apr. 20, 73.
Rec'd May 6.

Guad. Mex.
Aug. 1st 1893.

Rev. N. G. Clark:
Boston, Mass:

Dear Dr Clark

Your kind favor of Mar 6th was duly rec'd. At that time we expected to have to say good bye to the Howlands so that it seemed best to change the time of vacation by closing a month earlier in order that I could get back to be with Miss White by the time they left. This plan precipitated work.

However when we did not hear from Boston we gave up the plan and closed as usual the last of this month, In fact this week.

I was very glad that my wish to go home this vacation met your approval. Consequently I am planning to start about Aug. 7th.

I had thought to ask to have my salary continued and pay my own expenses, and still wish to, though the great difference in the money may make it difficult to meet expenses. I hoped to make special arrangements for a round trip ticket, but find it possible to obtain onl the regular Excursion ticket with permission to stop off at any place I wish after passing the Rio Gran

Miss White has just written you of Mr Howland's efforts in our behalf searching for another house. We are quite discouraged, as we meet disappointment coupled with insult and superciliousness. It looks as if we might be compelled to remain here: a fact to be lamen for various reasons. The sunless and small school room one, the cold and dampness of the house are particularly trying to Miss White's sensitive constitution. I very much doubt the possibility of her being able to live in it another winter.

I would like to write more but these exceedingly busy days and nights are filled to overflowing. I wish as far as possible to anticipate some of the work naturally belonging to vacation.

The family of twelve girl

does not lessen much the usual responsibility.

This morn we were wonderfully consoled and enheartened by your reply to Miss White; At noon, we were paralyzed by the contents of your telegram.

I cannot believe yet that this is the final result, and so live in hope of another change. Miss White has just finished writing to you; To add more on the subject is needless, since it seems to me, she has covered the whole, but I want to give my endorsement most emphaticly and heartily to all she has said.

We shall anxiously wait for fuller information and pray that there be no unusual delay on the road.

With warmest regards and wishes for your health and renewed strength
I am most sincerely,
Belle M Haskins

Belle M. Haskins
Guadalajára, Aug. 1 '93
Rec'd Aug. 11.

214 Rec'd in Com. Jan. 19

Mannville Fla.
11-30-93.

Rev. N. G. Clark Sec.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr Clark Your kind favor of the 6th inst after a number of delays, has but just reached me.

It has been my tho't for some time to write you, but being so constantly "en camino" "visita," obliged me to postpone doing so until I should reach Fla. It is now, nearly two weeks since I arrived, six weeks later than I had planned. I was delayed by the insistence of friends for some help in Miss. meetings together with necess and prolonged dental work. I had expected to be in Guat'a about the middle of this month, to carry out that plan would have prevented visiting mother and as can be imagined this would be next to an impossibilities: Still it would have been extremely diffi and inconvenient for me to be absent after time for the opening. Could I not depend so much upon the faithfulness and tireless energy of Josefa, the young woman who has assisted these y

She has been not a little assistance all summer, keeping the daily sch accounts &c, advising the cook, and now of staying in the house and attending to the girls' work out of school hours and making herself useful in every way possible. To do gladly every thing, even the most distasteful to help and please me, being absent, seems to be a characteristic of her peculiar and unusual devotion to me; Would, I could say of her love of God!;

To see her a devoted consecrated "Christain" is my ardent desire, and I am earnestly hoping that this may be the blessed year for her.

I am indeed surprised to learn of Mr Bissell's information since there has been no question as to my return. They greatly need a teacher, and I was in hopes that one had been appointed, since when I was pleading their necessity to Miss Wingate, she and Miss Pollock spoke of one they had in mind who might be secured.

We were greatly in hopes that the subject of building might be decided this year - since there never was a more favorable time to buy - so many places offered at unusually low prices - and one American dollar equal to three, in purchasing power! This is not because we tire answering the so frequent question, "Does not your Board yet own property in this important city?" or hearing the so frequent remark, that in Mexico City Puebla, Guanajuato and many other places of less importance all the other Boards have such excellent school and mission buildings; - but because it has long seemed so desirable for the effectual working and progress not only of the school, but in a good degree of the advance of the cause of Protestantism in Guad^a.

I note your mention of the good people of Guad^a. - When the Howlands and I first went to Mexico, we entertained the hope, that since we could offer them some advantages at less price than they could find elsewhere, and in quarters very attractive, as compared with theirs, we would ere long, have the patronage of the so called better classes. The schools in Guad^{a}, have been said to be fifty or seventy-five years behind the times in every way, and the statement is proven by the school buildings – ordinary dwelling houses inconvenient and incommodious; the school furniture – rude unpainted backless benches; – the few desks of similar style; – the school-books – in cheapest pamphlet form – the loud shouting studies and recitations of the pupils, the necessarily louder shout of the teacher – and the antiquated method of teaching; the prime object of which seemed to be, to cram the memory with the contents verbatim of the miniature text books. In this process the teachers were always assisted by a good number of pupils both small and large.

During the past year or two, some progressive teachers have made commendable e to introduce more modern ideas and applian and to some extent, have succeeded. As an examp of the progress made, compare the present style of read with the former – an extremely high pitch most rapid enunciation possible, devoid of all pause save where a period occurred, when the voice was suddenly lowered. Now the method is quite the reverse – a low monotonous tone – and each printed punctuation observed with greatest care.

There are two schools which have always been as well equipped as could be expected being state institutions – one a day and boarding school for young women – has a large corps of teachers – a pleasant building, good apparatus for the study of Nat. Phil., and an excellent reputation for the beautiful needlework, hair and artificial flowers exhibited by the pupils at the annual examinations.

The other is an asylum for a few insane and infirm, but principally for orphans foundlings and poor children. It is a large establishment covering twenty four blocks, and has a national reputation; the one or two similar asylums in the republic are said to be inferior to this.

In both of these schools particularly the latter, the public takes an active interest and the Government also must maintain its reputation by seeing that their condition now does not suffer in comparison with their former when in charge of the Church. Yet as would be expected the teaching and influence in both is thoroughly Romish. Besides these and the public schools there are not a few private, with the best I am quite well acquainted. The rank with the other schools in progress and peculiarities.

Guada. was, as you can see, well supplied with schools, which to most seemed of par excellence. It is perhaps more difficult to realize the deep prejudice and fanaticism that would prevent some who appeared so friendly when we met, from being drawn into our school.

We have always had a few friends among the upper classes who, while keeping up a calling acquaintance would never accept an invitation to any of our most attractive school entertainments, and much less to special religious service. Indeed invitations to attend a little reading Circle, held at the homes of different American ladies, have time and again been refused, by those who personally would have been glad to avail themselves of both the profit of the English and the pleasure, because they could not afford to connect themselves, in this regular way, with missionaries!

Our school room has always elicited ex-pressions of surprise and admiration, (thanks to Mr Howland's assistance) such as, "I did not suppose it possible to have such an American looking school-room," "What a contrast to the Mexican" "How very pretty and home like etc." But what weight ful such things have, compared with the loss social position the scorn and loss of friends, even among those not influenced by threats of ternal condemnation"!

When, however, the Kinder Garten Dep't, as opened the Fall of '89, and the children from o of the wealthiest and influential German families and a number of nice Americans entered, we th that this might be the beginning of an influen with other families, but two years and a half of their attendance (they were then taken to Germany) made no noticible difference.

The number of the other pupils has, as you know steadily increased. Many of them are the respectably poor class, and not inferior to those above them in the social scale.

Two years ago, one of the progressive teach attended the examinations and expressed himsel greatly pleased. He later asked admission for h daughter. later for his sisters who have ever s attended. This was the only time a teacher has accepted an invitation to attend exa altho a number are most cordial whenever we meet, or visit their schools.

Mr Howland you know has ha a good number of bright young men of goo families as pupils in English, but not one among them has become a christian or has attended services! He gained their respect and friendship and so Protestantism gai

So that desirable as it may be, to get hold of another class, those who have accepted the Gospel and among whom we can work, are the poor - the class to which our Master first came - the class that accepted Him. Is it not well to follow in his footsteps?

Mr Howland and I quite agree I think that the starting point must be at the bottom. Whether we can go up much in our day still remains to be proven - The Master may keep us working at the foundation.

You of course know that another house has finally been rented - which has the advantage of being more commodious and warmer We shall all enjoy it this winter. It will be particularly fortunate for Miss White who finds it quite difficult to become acclimated in Mexico She writes me that she again has had the ague. I sincerely hope the change will be a help - for in spite of our efforts life in Mercedes has been unusually trying to her and we have almost feared sometimes, that the experiment of the change to the climate there would not be successful; I am now so very well and am getting so thoroughly rested that I am anticipating an unusually good year, then, ~~help~~, work in Spanish has advanced rapidly this summer, and now, I trust we together, may have such a school as the Master can better use in bringing these lost ones to a saving knowledge of Himself.

As greatly interested as I am, in good scholarship and higher education, I am more thoroughly convinced each year that our chief our greatest work and aim should be to aid the entrance of the truth, that shall make them wise unto salvation. O that our school may be notable, because of the lives of those taug from their youth up, His word His love, his se

You are most kind refer again to the matter of traveling ex When I wrote you just as I left Guad^{a} I tho't I should not have any difficulty, but since the Mrs. Dol. has become so greatly

depreciated, the last word was that it was worth
but .33 cts ~~on $~~ - I may be compelled to ask
some favor. I thot I had made preparation
for a special object I had in view - when I
lay by a gift of a few Dols. to which I had
added by close economy a few more.
Two years ago a German friend wanted to dispose
of her piano while she went to Germany for a year -
taking it again on her return. She afterwards wished
a piano at the close of school. It was an unusu-
ually good one for the price $350.00 so after
advised with the Hovlands - I took it. When they
returned last year, to my disappointment
they were unable to take back the piano -
tho they greatly wished it. It did not seem wise
to sell it then owing to the difference in the
value of the money - The piano is used
solely for the school and if I could have the
use now, of a part I have in it until it is
sold, or if the school could pay for it, it
would be a great favor.

I have not heard any thing recent

Miss Belle M. Haskins
Mannville, Wis 89 3
Recd Dec

in regard to your health but I hope it is good and that the strength needed for all your labor is yours.

I regret so much the necessary delay this reply must have.

Is it not possible that my last did not reach you?

With many regards
I am as ever
Most truly yours
Belle M. Haskins.

P. S. I find I did not say that I hope to reach Guat^{a} sometime in Dec. I am obliged to remain with my mother a little longer than I had planned.

Miss B. M. Haskins

215

Mannville. Fla.

12-18-93

Rev. N. G. Clark:— Dec'd Dec. 22.

Boston Mass.

Dear Dr Clark:—

I have just
realized at this late hour
my sin of omission
in that I did not
write you some time
ago, asking permission
to extend my absence
beyond the time orig-
inally proposed. I
really cannot excuse
myself for such thought-
lessness. Truly while
remembering some of
the lesser points of the

lau I quite over looked
the one of prime im
ance; since it was ap
ing to me that the
sight of the Friends in
Guat^{a}, and the exten
of my R.R. ticket to
St. Louis were the m
needful.

Since Mrs. Howlan
urged me when I le
not to hasten back,
so kindly offered to he
fill the gap, and t
continued to write in
same way, when the
circumstances of dea
and mother's situat
continued to emphasi
the need of remainin
a few weeks longer,
seemed only as if the
were concerned.

I trust you can pardon such amazing neglect which I can assure you will not again be repeated. I am indeed ashamed that I should have been guilty once even.

I am now awaiting my ticket in order to leave and be able to reach Guad.ª by Jan. 18th.

Please accept many wishes for health and happiness at this Christmas tide. And believe me, most sincerely yours,

Belle M. Haskins

216

Guad^a., Mex.-
2-6-94-

Rev. N. G. Clark.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Clark:-

I am very glad and thankful to report myself in the field again.

I left Florida Jan. 5th hoping to reach Guad^a. by the 25th or 6th, but several unexpected delays;- loss of a letter from R.C. officially, for which I waited more than 2 weeks, before starting, causing subsequent delay;- missing connections on account of late trains, and laying over for a R.R. difficulty not far from the border, prevented my reaching Guad^a. til the last of Jan.

I found all as well as usual no
altho the grippe for the first time,
had been in the school and
Miss White had suffered from
a severe attack.

Our new quarters are a great improvement on the former, - ample and healthful, excepting the main school-room, which is ver cold, no ray of the sun ever enters and being without any panes of glas in doors or windows there is tota darkness if these are closed.

Our landlord finds it impossible to put in a window - our school finances are too low to assist, so I shall economiz and do it myself.

The financial distress seems to be increasing with exchange on the rise, prices here must go up correspondingly. It seems as if there will be a terrible crash if exchange goes up to 100% as some predict.

If only some could realize what an excellent time it is to use money in Mexico where one American dollar will nearly double itself!

We have just received two pupils one whose father pays all expenses another for whom I furnish half or two thirds the father the remainder.

There are as usual many applications from those who can pay nothing and *must* be refused.

I hoped to have written

before but the many visitors
consume my leisure so that
it is very difficult to get any
letters written.

Hoping that the recent
cold weather does not affect
your health, and with
many sincere wishes

I am as ever respectfully
Yours,
Belle M. Haskin

Miss Belle M. Haskins
Guadalajara, Feb. 6, 1894
Filed Feb. 16

C. H. D.
Rec'd
Ans'd 9-4-95

Guad^{a} Mexico.

8-24-95.

Rev. James L. Barton
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Barton

For many months I have wished I might take time to write you. For altho' Miss White so well expressed my sentiments in our joint reply I fear it has seemed as if I little appreciated your good letter and did not care to write.

Believe me, it was quite the contrary, I have in truth, no leisure for any correspondence as the time from early morn until late evening has unavoidably been wholly occupied with "Ye thynges nexte ye hand"

Also, as this was Miss White's last year here, and her delicate health and frequent illness have always made us fearful lest one might suddenly prove fatal, I was particularly anxious that this should be, as easy and pleasant for her, as possible, and that she might not only have leisure to prepare for the coming event, but, also, be ready to enter into the new and happy life, not too worn in body.

A recent letter from Mr Eaton informs us that the papers, of one appointed to this field are being made out. This may be a mistake, since we have had no information on the subject.

We very much hope that the right person will speedily be found, as it is desirable that we have permanent help as early as possible, and yet, I feel that the imperative need is the right one, and that she have time to inform and prepare herself even tho' we wait longer for her.

We can arrange for a time, in one of several ways, namely - by obtaining a teacher for the Eng. classes Miss White had; (Not a difficult matter now; One good offer has already been rec'd.); securing the help of a Mexican teacher for some of my classes in Spanish while I take the English - or, by combining the two plans.

At present, there are more resources than formerly. One of the best Mex. lady teachers, and a friend of mine, is occupied in the evening only.

Two young ladies, who were partly educated in San Sebastian with Mrs. Gulick and later spent several years in Boston, are in Guadª for perhaps a year: They are Protestant Baptists and would be glad of employment. An American lady, a former teacher, and well versed in Spanish, having lived in Guadª seven years, can give her services for at least a couple of hours daily.

If search is made

I have no doubt, other help can be had, since we have cordial relations with several of the prominent educators of the city, including the Supt. of the Board of Education, one of our first and best friends.

If it were necessary we might get along with such outside help for quite a time; I trust, however, there will be no such need, but that we shall soon have the happiness of welcoming her who is to be a dear companion and fellow-worker in this part of God's vineyard.

Please let us know at an early date, that we may plan accordingly.

With warm regards believe me, Sincerely yours, Belle M. Haskins

Miss Belle M. Haskins, 218

7-97
5-7-98

Guad^a, Mex
11-28-97

Rev. James L. Barton,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

I fear my delay in answering your kind favor seems quite unpardonable. I assure you it has been a forced one.

I found your letter awaiting on my return from a three weeks rest on an hacienda, distant some thirty miles the

Part of Sept- Unusual chan
in our rooms- preparation opening sch
beside other extra interrupti
with the absence of our cook-
made writing an impossib
Then followed the unu
necessity of caring for a sic
girl- one who returned ill with
malarial fever-
She was be
just up, when one, whose li
attack of influenza, last wint
terminated in ulceration of the
liver, was again confined to
bed and is in a critical co
dition- Thus it has seemed
impossible to ~~avoid~~ surroun
and pressing, necessary

duties

We close the summer session as perhaps you know July 30th having enrolled during e entire year one hundred and four. e last month roll being sixty eight, e indulged in the expectation of good number at the beginning f next term. For several years we have had a vacation session three hours daily for the primay Dept, This was omitted this ear, and together with other unusual causes has affected the attendance this fall.

Two bright girls were taken away just at the close of vacation

two days before my return.
this strong R. Catholic influen
similar to that exerted last y
over two other sisters, rather
relatives.

A father, who had abandon
his family for six years, sud
ly appeared to claim his daug
who had been with us four ye
He took her, ostensibly for th
vacation, but did not allow h
to return. Another belonging to
superior grade, was taken b
her aunt, a ~~[illegible]~~ fanatical r
anist, since school began

In all these cases we h
the seed has been sown, t

rd, has been studied and
nderstood; and we will trust
e results to Him who loves
nd cares for them –

It would seem as if God meant
to review ~~the~~ lessons of faith
nd hope we had not well learned
past years.

If none of this has been due
unfaithfulness on our part, we
ill be content.

I have been thinking that it
ight be in answer to our prayer,
t each might be permitted to return
o would receive the gospel with
e whole heart.

The influence of present and

past years of training, makes i
easy to accept the Gospel tru
as truths that some may need
affect the inner life.

We do so des
the true conversion of these
girls, and not mere improvemen

But I have begun w
the discouragements, tho we
no lack of things for which
thankful.

The changes made in o
school rooms this year are in a
way especially advantageous.

Formerly all grades excep
lower primary, had to sit toge
in same main room, & go to recitation

Now, we have a room for the higher Primary and Inter med. (1st) of which Mrs. Long is in charge, a special advantage for the children as ell as very desirable for the acher; So she and we all are very happy over this change. Thanksgiving time is more han ever a time for me to give thanks since now my dear mother has completed her ear with me, and as she had pected to be in the U.S. before this, I had expected to be compelled face the reality of living without . I am very happy and fornate in having so good and capa

an helpmate as Miss Long -
not only is she well prepared to
take care of Primaries but also some
higher studies, such as complete
Arith- and Geography -
We are all very thankful that
the climate seems to agree so w
with her and that there is every
prospect that she can endure b
work and climate.

Yes, we ought to accomplish
more than double that which o
could do alone. It will hardly sh
in numbers, but we pray that
it may in other and more impo
ways. Yours sincerely -
Belle M. Haskins

Mary L. Holcombe

219 — 234

Mrs Holcomb.

32 Forest St. Montclair N.J.
March 6, 1892.

Dear Dr Clark,

Your letter made me feel that I had gained a new friend. I was glad indeed to know Mrs Eaton and to have her so near to advise and inform me while I was questioning as to what I should do. If I go to be with her in Chihuahua she will seem like a very old friend and I shall feel like calling her mother as her Mexican people do.

There is however a lady in New York, Miss Felton, who already knows the Spanish language and who has done training school work. Mrs Eaton thought she might decide to go to Chihuahua and she is of course more fit than I for the place. Until I know her decision I can not tell exactly what I shall do. Mrs Eaton has returned as no doubt you know and I should not go till fall as I have decided to finish my year in the Montclair school. When it comes to deciding on my outfit I shall write for advice.

Sincerely, Mary L. Holcomb.

Miss Mary L Holcombe

32 Forest St, Montclair N.J.
April 17, 1892.

Dear Dr Clark, -

You asked for information regarding my plans. I had nothing definite to tell you as my plans depend on the decisions of others.

I wrote to Mrs Eaton that you would like Miss Felton's address and have heard nothing from her since Her baby has been quite ill and I do not know that she has even had time to write you. I know nothing

of Miss Felton save what
Eaton has told me. She h
taught in Central Ameri
and has had experienc
in training school work
could more easily take
work at Chihuahua tha

At Guadalajara, Mrs
tells me, an assistant
needed. Perhaps with th
task of learning the lan
and the effects of chan
of climate it would be
to take such a place tha
begin at once with the
and work of a large s
Another thing in favor
alajara is that I am
ially fitted for kindergart

I never should have thought of going without a definite demand for me and it seemed when it was first suggested that Chihuahua might be supplied by another that my reason for going was no longer. But after thinking more of the difficulty in getting teachers and the reasons for going to Guadalajara that I have told you I decided to accept that change if so desired. So I leave it to you and the Eatons to arrange. I shall be ready for October first. What I shall need for my outfit,

I must find out whe
place is decided. I
that will not be long de
Will you kindly write
if you know anyth
more of Miss Felton?

Very sincerely
Mary L. Holcom

Dr N. G. Clark,
Boston, Mass.

32 Forest St., Montclair,
May 28, 1892.

Dear Dr Clark,

My mother
rote me a while ago that
I must come home every
summer and that I
must not say it is
impossible". I wrote Mrs
aton what she said and
as referred to you. Mrs
said tell you they, at
the station would not ob-
ject. My mother has felt
badly about my going
at I questioned whether I
ght to go or stay for her sake
I could arrange to come

money allowed for my outfit. I think they will need kindergarten materials + some books.

I expect to go, the first of October as I think I told you. Miss Prescott goes to Parral after this term. I hoped she would be there until the first of January; but it seems she has already staid longer than her friends wanted to spare her.

I want all the advice you can give as to how I shall get and send my outfit. I never have travelled far and depend on the instructions I shall receive.

ome she would not feel that
he had buried me as she
eems to feel ~~that~~ she is going
do. Or if I could ~~do so~~ come
n the first few summers years probably
he intervals could be made
nger after a while and it
ould not seem so hard to her.
hat do you think?
Mrs Eaton wrote about carpet
nd furniture for my room.
ould it be well to get them
fore I return to Hartford
une 18-? I suppose express-
ge would be a little less
om N. Y. Perhaps the price
the things would be less also.
rough there wouldn't be much
fference as to that.
I should like to get some
ngs for my use in the
hool too if I may with the

Miss Mary L. Holcomb

Montclair, May 28, 1892

Rec'd May 31

Pl. ✓

as an exceptional
case granted;
see minutes of
P.C. June 7.

Will Mr. Lovett please advise in this matter?

Mr Lovett
July 11/92

89 Ann St. Hartford Ct
June 28, 1892

Dear Dr Clark,

The decision of the Prud. Com. regarding my vacations reached me June sixteenth. This permission makes my leaving home a comparatively easy matter and think what I shall gain y returning every summer isiting schools here, pos- ibly attending summer school ill benefit the Chihuahua chool quite as much as y remaining there would.

You speak of my goin
at the opening of the sch
term. That would be im
possible as it begins i
August and I am not
sufficiently rested to beg
work so soon. When
first talked of going to M
ico in November I thou
my place in Montclair
might be filled by some
else for the Spring & I m
go with Mrs Eaton. The
authorities objected how
to my leaving & Mrs Ea
suddenly decided to
earlier. She then prop
(she seems to have forgotten
that I should go Oct

nd I have made my plans for the summer accordingly. It is now impossible to attend to some necessary preparations before the first of Sept. If I need to go at all earlier than I expected it would be so little that it does not seem to me it would do enough good to pay for the trouble. I am sorry Miss Dunning has to take so much on herself.

Mr Eaton gave me the name of a man in Chicago who will furnish tickets at half rates from that place suppose through the influence the Board. Shall I apply him or will the Board do it me? How can half rates

be obtained the rest of th
I think Mr. & Mrs. E. ha
rates on the Erie Roa
but I don't know how th
secured them. Does the Bo
tend to all that?

I am going to N. Y.
seventh and will buy
furniture, bedding, carpet and
tains there and have th
sent on now if there
no reason why I shou
not. How shall I as
for payment?

I suppose my travellin
expenses, expressage & du
in going to Mexico are p
aside from the two hund
and fifty dollars allow
outfit. Of course if n
needed I shall not sp
the whole sum allowe

outfit but I wish to add kindergarten materials and a few books for my use in school. The kindergarten material I can order from catalogue and will leave that till Sept.

Mrs Eaton said I would need a wardrobe which could be made there & a writing desk from El Paso was suggested. These are all the things I have thought of getting.

Please advise. Thanks for your care

Yours

Mary L Holcomb.

Miss M. L. H

Hartford, June 28.

Rec'd July 8.

Miss Mary L. Holcomb

Hartford, June 28, 1892

Rec'd June 29

S E. SWETT,
General Business Agent.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

Congregational House.

1 SOMERSET STREET, BOSTON.

July 7, 1892.

iss Mary L. Holcomb,

109 Ann St., Hartford, Conn.

Dear Friend:- Your favor of the 28th ult., to Dr. Clark has
een handed me for attention and reply in regard to several of the bus-
iness items. If you will apply to Rev. C. H. Daniels, 121 Bible House,
ew York City, he will attend to the matter of your ticket to Chicago.
do not know whose name Mr. Eaton gave you in Chicago to secure ticket
eyond there, but suppose it to be Rev. A. N. Hitchcock, District Sec-
etary of the Board there, Room 24, 151 Washington St. You are
orrect in thinking that your travelling expenses and expressage and
uties on goods is paid by the Board aside from your outfit allowance.
. Ward will send you a check at any time, for a part, or the whole of
ur outfit allowance, or whatever may be needed for travelling expenses.
you will ascertain how much you need for kindergarten materials and
oks for the school, and will notify Dr. Clark of the amount, it is
ssible that a grant for the purpose may be made by the Committee.
ping that the above will satisfactorily answer your inquiries, I re-
ain

Yours very truly,

Hutchinson &

Miss Holcombe

1892

L. Holcomb

June 28, 1892

Recd June 29

May L Holcombe

Cottage City, Mass.
August 3, 1892

Dear Dr Clark,

Your letter of July 29 was sent to my home and from there, here. I wrote you of my plans hen you were away & did not know how much had een reported to you.

Before Mrs Eaton left Montclair she suggested the first of October as a good ime for me to go to Mexico.

At that time she expec
Miss Prescott & remain,
Chihuahua until the end
this year. When I learne
that Miss Dunning w
& be alone I had made
arrangements at hom
for my summer whi
could not be change
without inconvenienc
others as well as my
& more protests fr
my family. So I
tend to leave Hartfor
time to reach Chihuah
October first.

While in N.Y. attendin

e C.E. convention I selected
urniture & carpet for my
oom. About that Mr
mith has given me di-
ection. As I said before
I wish to get later some
kindergarten materials; I
have not yet made esti-
mates of quantities needed
and some books. I must
buy bedding, curtains, ward-
obe writing desk yet. Do
you wish all the items
of my purchases?
Have I omitted anything
you wished to know? If so
please suggest.

Very sincerely, Mary L. Holland

Cottage City, Mass.
August 18, 1892.

Dear Dr Clark, –

Your letter of Aug 11th is received. I did not know any one was going to Guadalajara but am very glad to hear of Miss White. I do hope she will be ready to go with me. I do not dread the journey alone but it will be much pleasanter to have company.

I should much enjoy a day in Boston and will go Monday, Aug 29 if you can see me on that evening. I will write you where to find me as soon as my plans are completed. Will you kindly tell me where to send for a small map or guide of Boston? It has such a reputation for tangled streets that I should feel more comfortable with a map. I will try to follow Mr Eaton directions for shipping.

Sincerely

Mary L. Holcomb.

Miss M. L. Holcomb.

Cottage City, Aug. 18. 1892.

Rec'd Aug 19. 1892.

Ack in part
aug. 19. /92.
Complete.
aug. 25/92.

Mrs M L Holcomb

Cottage City, Mass.
August 26, 1892

Dear Dr Clark

Your letter has just arrived.

Thanks for the suggestion of the Y.W.C.A. rooms. You are very kind t invite me to your own home but I think some ne of my family will go with me so we will ccept the first suggesion. My friends have r Jan

the

in r

. C.

ter

you

A.

Was

g ex

ide

time

be n

l for

ecommended several hotels
ut I like your idea better.
We expect to arrive at the
O.C. depot, Kneeland St. at
11.15 A.M. Monday. Shall
spend the afternoon looking
bout the city unless you
prefer to see me before evening
In that case you might
ind me just at noon at
the Y.W.C.A. rooms. I shall
be there in the evening. Shall
be glad to know you person-
lly.

Yours sincerely

Mary L. Holcomb.

Mary L. Holcomb.

artford. Sept. 12. 1892.

Rec'd Sept. 13. 1892.

109 Ann St., Hartford Ct

Sept. 12, 1892.

Dr. N. G. Clark,

Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr Clark, -

Enclosed please find the paper you gave me to fill out.

My sister and I stayed one night in Boston after eeing you. We were pleased ith the entertainment at Y. W. C. A rooms and thank ou for recommending it to s. We found the business art of Boston a very confusng tangle and were grateful to you for furnishing a guide. We visited Con and Bunker Hill and we much pleased with our saw enough to remember think of for a long time. I can not recall the of the lady I met in the rooms of the Woman's I was attracted by her ing manner and fa and wish to associate name with it.

Mrs Jewell, president the Hartford Branch just informed me th I am adopted by them asked me to be with th at their next month meeting. I am pleas

to belong to my own city.
I believe I told you I should
start Sept 26. I have found
friends (since I came home)
who are going as far as
Chicago at the end of that
same week and I should
like to go with them as I
am such an inexperienced
traveller. It will make me
nly a few days later than
I expected at first. I do not
know whether I can have
choice of routes or if not
whether they will want to go
my way. I hope to be informed
as to my route soon so I
shall know what to do. I
have written to the N.Y. secretary
My order for kindergarten

material & furniture is
made out but not se
It amounts to a little
than eighty dollars whi
can be paid out of m
outfit allowance if y
furnish me money f
sleeper & meals, etc - all
essary expenses at the
ginning of my journey
Please let me know how
that will be arranged.
I can send on my order
How shall I apply to M
Truett & Miss Child's f
funds? Both offered to m
& either would attend to i
suppose, but which is the
one? I need not ask y
to answer soon. You always

Sincerely
Mary L Holcom

Mrs Holcomb

Hartford, Ct. Sept 19, 1892.

Dear Dr Clark,—

In answer to your letter of Sept 16— I have written to Mrs Eaton ften so she knows all my plans.

Mr Smith & Mr Eaton both gave me the address of Dr Hitchcock of Chicago & Rev C H Daniels, N. Y. instructing me to apply to them for tickets. I have written to both & received from Chicago.

a pass at half rate to El Paso and a letter from Dr H. to aid in securing the same on the Mexican Central Shall expect the pass from N.Y. in a few days.

Accepting your recommendation to stop in El Paso, I shall leave H. Tuesday Sept 27. I hope the school will not be disappointed again, as they have been so many times in the last five years Mr Wright has already offered to help me.

Yours
M L Holcomb.
109 Penn St.

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Chihuahua, Mexico.
Oct 6, 1892.

Dear Dr Clark,—

You will be nterested probably to know hat I have at last arrived in Chihuahua. I stopped in El Paso over Sunday. Mr Wright has given me assistance n every way needed most kindly. The Eatons met me and made me feel at home at

rove at once. My les-
s - with Spanish teacher
gan today and I am
aching English classes
lready.

The journey has not
en hard as I expected.
My report of travelling
xpenses is ready for
Mr Hard. Some of my
utfit has not yet ar-
rived.

With kind regards.
Very sincerely
Mary L. Holcomb.

Miss Mary L. Holcomb.

Chihuahua, Oct. 6. / 92.

Rec'd Oct. 13. 1892.

Matron and the food. I do not think it ever would have happened but for the influence an outside family through the Mexican assistant. The ssistant did not show a ery good spirit when here nce before but was very intelligent & ladylike refined in appearance and at the time I came here they did not know where to turn for helper so she was secured At first she did very well, ut fell more & more under the influence of these outside eople of whom the woman alls herself an atheist & the man himself a free thinker best thing for the school that it is obliged to decrease its numbers and go without a matron this year.

Those who have been longest in the school are a great contrast to the new comers. We see what has been done by the comparison. They do most creditable work in their studies, and their knowledge of the bible is far more than our home children have. The C.E. society meetings are always well sustained and two new girls who have come in to the school in the last year not Christians have showed a decided interest. One is and have said in this house that they hated the patrons. A father of one of the girls who loves nothing better than to champion somebodies *rights* socialist fashion happened in town just in time t *back* *them* up, and we had a strike.

At first I was indignant and disgusted. I thought to much had been done for them rather than not enough. but I have seen more and more since, the part others ad in it and I begin to think at only a small part of e blame belongs to the girls. But the influence or fruits of t affair have shown since d I think it may be the

Miss Dunning is a mother to all with never failing care-thoughtfulness for their needs and self-sacrifice. She has most thoroughly the missionary spirit. Everything that she can she will do for the good of others. She has had altogether too little rest & change from her work. I shall stay as house keeper this summer if my bothersome health does not interfere. If it does I think you'd better send me home to stay for an invalid missionary is entirely useless. I used to work from Monday morning to Saturday night in Montclair but I have to spend Saturdays getting rested

3.

ur war is not half so bad
s reported in the states.
I have heard of no battles
xcept through home papers.
here was some excitement
in the city a week or more
ago it is true.
Zenaida Poblano for whom
a contribution came just to
late has gone out to teach.
e had the arrangement all
made when the news of the
fifty dollars came and it did
ot seem best to change it.
he has done excellent work
in school and I do hope we
shall hear good reports from
er in Zaragosa.
We have here one of the girls

I have written to the W. B. twice. The first letter was lost. It is sometime now since I have written.. My letters have been few this year and will be fewer for the rest of it.

You surely hear from this station frequently from the Eaton's. They report quite fully the mission news so I have not thought it mattered if I did not write. I wrote a great deal when I first came and enjoyed it but I need what time & strength I have now for other things.

With warmest regards.

Very sincerely

ho has been out teaching everal years. She has well repaid all that has been done for her Miss D. thinks. he is teaching part of the day & studying part.

All the good effect of my work that I see so far is at home in the nterest of friends.

Miss Haskins surprised ast Sunday morning by topping on her way to uadalajara. She went on ext day.

Miss Prescott is boarding even girls getting most of e necessaries from their parents.

Miss M. L. Holcomb

Chihuahua, Feb. 3, 1894,

Rec'd Feb. 8.

Miss Mary I. Holcomb.

Chihuahua Mexico
March 31, 1894.

Dr N. G. Clark, Rec'd Ap. 6.
Boston Mass.

Dear Dr Clark -

Your letter mentioning the scholarship from Montclair came a few days ago. I also received the one of Feb 28. I do not deserve any credit whatever for securing the scholarship. The lady who is president of the "Band" that sends it happens to be a friend of mine as well as especially interested in Chihuahua and the correspondence has fallen to me. As to the expenditure of mission money in the boarding school I have had nothing to do with it. I never saw the accounts nor knew what the appropriation for the school was until

the year when a council o
was called to discuss th
I then averaged the expendit
and found we used o
hundred dollars, Mexican
to support one girl. That eq
fifty dollars U. S. money
the sum of our scholarshi
asked for. The appropria
of eight-hundred and f
dollars at that rate s
ports eight-girls and a
We have two girls who p
a little more than the ac
expense of keeping them
one more pays about t
her expenses. A large pa
the rest furnish their
clothes but you can
that not enough come
to enable us to keep th
the number we had in
fall. The mistake
made in taking so m
on the present appropria

A special grant for just this year would not have put an end to the difficulty. It would only have relieved us this year and the same lack would have come another year. I do not think the fall of silver has affected the cost of Mexican food much. Clothes books etc cost more, and the food that we eat ourselves has gone up".

The time for Mr Williston to arrive must be near. I hope we may see him. It makes a pleasant break in our routine to meet travellers from the States although they are not especially interested in our work and doubly so if they are. We are glad Mr Daniels is coming. I'm afraid he'll find it rather warm, but

preferable to the season
dust storms. They are
most disagreeable thi
I've met.

Quite a number of the mis
aries take vacations this
mer I believe. I intend
stay here if I can. I'm
ing it very hard work t
anything as I did last
at this time.

Mrs E. ill on Easter
as she could not be with
but is up now. We had
pleasant English service
largest attendance I ev
saw at that service.

With regards from
Dunning & myself.

Very truly

H. L. Ho

Chihuahua Mexico.
May 17, 1894.

Dr N. G. Clark.
Boston Mass.

Dear Dr Clark, -

In my last letter to you I think I suggested sending me home to stay. It was understood by the mission when [illegible] back last August [illegible] did not have better in the second year it would not be advisable for me to try to continue here. I think all the members of our mission feel that I am not able to endure teaching in this climate. I am doing almost nothing outside of school hours, have not attended a prayer meeting ~~during the~~ a week day prayer meeting for months, have not taught in S. School or taken any active

part in church work an
have not attended all the
day services & have not t
Spanish lessons since D
ber. I could not do less a
yet I am not at all we
I have spent most of my
Saturdays for three mont
resting and getting up ene
for the school work of the
next week and most of
sick days have come o
Saturdays or Sundays so
school classes have not b
interrupted, I am glad to sa
But I do not feel that
can be any great benef
to the mission for me t
try to stay and I a
afraid to run the risk
for myself.

I regret exceedingly th
I am a bad investment
outfit - another teacher will
have the entire benefit

The furniture has been well cared for - is as good as new and the room seems to me to be provided with all desirable. The kindergarten supplies that I brought, too, were mostly the gifts which serve a long time and nearly everything I brought is still serviceable as at first.

Mrs Eaton says you mentioned some teacher who knew the Spanish language a few months ago. I hope such a one may be found that the school need not suffer another year in the Spanish.

I came for the good of the mission and did not mean to give up. I am sorry it has not been more truly for the good of the mission.

Very truly

H. L. Holcomb.

Both Miss. D. & Mrs E. advise my ing home immediately after conference, hich come the first week in June.

M. L. Holtcomb

Chihuahua May 17. 94

Miss Mary L. Holcomb

North Canton, Conn
Aug 21, 1894.

Dear Dr Clark:-

Recd. Aug 23

Your very kind letter was forwarded to me from Hartford. I wish I could believe I deserved all the nice things you have said for me in your various letters but I measure by my own judgment I am sure I dont. I wish I could think it had been worth while to send me to Mexico but I ~~think~~ doubt it. For myself I am sure it has paid. The experience of the past two

years is invaluable.
I shall always feel tha
I belong to the Chihua
mission, and wish fo
well being and prosperity
I am so glad the wo
is going right on in
Miss Hammonds han
I can see no reason
why the school shou
not grow and do we
if it can have a cap
ble leader, who stays
So many changes a
disastrous ~~especially~~
mong the Mexicans. The
are especially opposed
having their teachers cha
I think Miss Dunnin
has quite a strong hol
in the affection an

esteem of the girls.

My own plans are not very definite. I shall teach again after awhile but at present I am resting and shall not seek a new position until another year. The ocean trip from New Orleans to New York did me a great deal of good. Then I had a month at Cottage City and now am in a quiet country village with my grandparents. They are old people and glad to have me with them and I love the country best of all places. The green round hills look so

very beautiful after t
barren plains of Chin
The bare mountains I a
ways liked. The atmos
phere softened and tint
them until they were s
beautiful.

Your retirement from
the Board comes soon. M
of the missionaries wil
miss you greatly; the C
very much indeed. "
kind and fatherly." I ha
heard several missiona
say.

So this must be far
well. I shall think
you many times in
the days to come.

Most sincerely
Mary L. Holc

M. C. Holcomb.

234

W.B.M.

Hartford, Conn.
Aug 28 1894.

Dear Dr Clark Rec'd Aug. 29.

A visit from Miss Hammond who goes to Chihuahua has delighted me. She seems just the right one for the place with so much experience in the work and spirit and executive ability, I believe, to do her work well; to be the leader they need. They want some one to direct, to plan and build up the work and I am glad to see such a strong capable person going.

I am sure now it was best for me to resign though I did feel a lit- anxious about it. I am quite relieved, now, and glad for the sake of the school that I did. It is better that she is older. It will seem more natural and right to others that she should lead and direct.

Will you recommend that the Hartford Branch adopt her? I should be pleased to have it so.

With kindest regards

Very truly

M L Holcomb.

John Howland

235 — 296

Guadalajara, Mex.
Jan. 9. 1891.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D. Boston, Mass.

Dear Brother: —

I should have replied ere this to yours of Nov. 26th indicating our allowance for the present year, but have delayed so as to be able to give details, which I could not do until my return from Juárez. I now enclose them. You have doubtless heard full reports of the meetings at Juárez. They were very enjoyable and helpful, am sure that good will result from them for the work. The final arrangement of workers was not at all in accordance with my judgment, for I much doubt Mr. B's fitness for opening new work, whereas Mr. Case has shown himself especially successful in that line. But Mr. Case was no longer under the necessity of going as his health is much improved and showed considerable reluctance to leave his present work. Even then, I should have said push Mr. Olds out into the new work, but

the majority of the mission thought differently
The result was reached after long careful and
prayerful deliberation and discussion, by a
fair majority voting by ballot, so we have e
reason to believe that it was divinely ordered. I was mu
disappointed at the refusal of the No. Miss to
accept the management of our paper. They prai
it highly, etc., etc. but refused to take the responsi
of it, altho' I agreed to pass over the amount m
our estimates, to write at least half the cop
sell our press and turn over avails, etc. b
to no purpose. My principal motive was to h
it done better in every way; especially the mech
ical part, and on better paper. As Mr. Wigh
declared that he could not possibly do anyt
about it, feeling himself overworked as it i
course nothing more could be done about t
matter. I hope it may be arranged fo
another year. I hope the school may se
a good printing outfit, it would be a g
thing in many ways. The school at Mar
has, I believe, a future of great usefulne
Would that it could be well endowed!

It was a great pleasure for us all to w

Dr. Hitchcock and have the benefit of his advice. Am glad he is seeing something of the work in Parral, etc.

Here there is nothing of especial interest & note. Am having my lot cleared up and things put into shape to begin with the foundations very soon, tho' there is no news from the gov. Intend to take aggressive steps soon. The city engineer told me privately that there was no doubt about my winning, but the wheels of government action move slowly in Mexico, being hampered by endless amount of "red tape." I shall be careful not to "compromise" the Board or the mission, but hope to begin little by little. In La Barca two persons came out boldly, last month, declaring their complete renunciation of Romanism and their faith in the Gospel; in the face of an angry crowd of their neighbors. But we fear that the enemies of the truth found some way to win them or at least intimidate them, for they have kept themselves out of Magdalena's way since. In some places there is a little more encouragement. Here the week of prayer is being well sustained and we hope for a blessing from it. Miss H's school is larger than ever before, numbering 44, with 19 in the boarding department.

Very truly yours.

John Howland.

Guadalajara
Jan. 9. 90

Guadalajara. Mex.
Jan. 16. 1890.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.

Dear Bro.:—

My long silence is due to various causes and motives. A press of work so great that I have barely kept along with what must be done, leaving much that was no less obligatory but less clamorous, has often kept me from my table for days together. The principal reason, however, has been an almost unconquerable dislike to say anything about mission matters, in the first place, because I was, so to speak, holding my breath to see what would be the result of several years' painful efforts; and secondly, because I have been unable to reach settled conclusions, in my own mind, about some matters of the utmost importance. I know that human hopes and efforts rarely attain the proposed result, but there has seemed to be a singular fatality about this mission.

Time and again we have thought we saw the small cloud of promise arise, in this or that direction, only to see it dissolve and disappear, at least in its larger part.

This has just had a notable verification. For nearly three years we have had work in Zapotlanejo, 25 miles east. Little by little we got a hold on this and that family and lately the seed has been springing up quite rapidly, and eleven from there have been received into the church. Warned by disappointments in the past I have tried to hold the work back as regards its outward manifestation, seeking all the time to make it root more widely and deeply. The school numbered twenty and the attendance at services averaged over thirty. I hoped to organize the church there in March and all seemed to be going so well that we decided to have a Christmas entertainment there. This was quite a success, the exercises were very good indeed, and the attendance was very large - over seventy seated and fifteen

& twenty standing about the door. Some of the best people of the place were present. I came home very much encouraged not only at the spirit of the believers but at the attitude of the people. there was not a sign of an interruption or disturbance of any kind. || — Two days afterwards one of the resident priests preached a violent sermon against the protestants urging the people to extirpate the evil root and branch. weeping over the sad condition of affairs, &c. It was like a spark to powder. A league of over two hundred was formed, who signed a promise to spare no expense nor even life itself to eliminate the heresy. Notices were served to all protestants to leave at once. There probably would have been an attack on the house on the following Sunday had not two of the members of the congregation stood guard with arms. The next night the door of the school was set on fire with kerosene, and the next day the house of one of the believers was broken open by a mob, who we have good reason to believe, hoped to find our preacher there. not finding anyone, they destroyed everything, clothing, dishes, looms, in fact there wasn't anything left. The believers seeing that the danger was becoming more and more imminent, and that the government could not be relied upon to protect them. ¶ Fled. Nearly thirty came here. I at once lodged a complaint with the authorities but little has been done. the governor sent a small detachment of troops, but refused to do anything to punish the offenders saying it was the business of the local officers. A few of the believers remained, and I have hopes services may be reopened very soon, But it will be under the greatest disadvantages and with considerable danger. Only a part of those who fled will return, most of them having found work here. The assassination of Governor Corona, was a more serious loss to our work than I had supposed. The present incumbent is wholly in sympathy with the clerical party and we can expect only the most imperfect and reluctant sort of fulfillment of the laws of religious liberty.

¶ For nearly a year we sent our paper "El Testigo" to a man whom I never had seen, but whom I knew to have a Bible. It seems that he was living in an hacienda, and there, with his Bible and our paper he got a little circle about him whose hearts God seems to have touched. They, of their own accord, took down all their saints and burned them and met every night to read and pray, often as many as thirty. Then they began to feel the need of some one to instruct them and began to make inquiries about the paper, from whom it came, &c. At last the original believer and one of the converts came here, and after having staid here a fortnight, working by day and attending services in the eve, were received into the church. Since then I have arranged so that one of our workers visits them twice a month. Three of the believers there have died within the past six weeks, but the rest seem faithful, and we hope to receive quite several at our next communion." The worker who visits them has found a few friends in another place near and holds services there of a dozen or more. These places are on the south side of Lake Chapala, some sixty miles from here. These believers are liable to be turned out of their homes at any moment as they are all tenants, we might almost say serfs of the owner of the hacienda. Word has been brought us of a little group of believers in a village nearly one hundred miles east, and next week a worker goes to visit them.

Our church here is getting into better working order. A good index of this is the increased spirit of giving. The saving banks, begun in Aug. were opened Dec. 31st. 29 in number and the result was $69.99, and the church voted to add enough to make it $100.00. The church has raised, for all purposes about $175.00 during the year: not a large sum, but a vast improvement over the past one really it is doing quite well, considering the poverty of the members.

As to chapel, we have been much disappointed at the slowness of receipts and have not even adopted a plan, not daring to do so until we could know something what to expect as to amount. We very much wanted to get to work by April at the latest in order to get the roof on before the June rains, but there seems no prospect unless we content ourselves with the very plainest kind of a building which we are unwilling to do.

I sent no estimates for '90 for M. B. and were repeatedly prevented from meeting during Oct. and Nov. and then came yours notifying me of the decision. We will do our best to come within the $6500.00 but it will be very hard for two reasons. — Exchange has fallen nearly ten per cent making a difference of

$500.00 or more, & we have been compelled to ask for an increase of our personal allowance, $5.00 per mo. more for each persons, and then some families are increased. We saved over $400.00 dollars last year, as shown by my report to Mr. Ward, but am afraid that our running expenses this year will be larger, aside from the differences mentioned above.

As to the withdrawal of this mission we are still opposed to any such action, and more strongly than ever. Just what is best, I do not know. I can not help but be gratified by the confidence you place in me and that of Mr. Crawford, but am unable to share it very fully. It is true I am very fond of teaching and have often feared I made a serious mistake in giving it up to come here, but I should doubt the advisability of my going to the North, at present at least. In fact it hardly seems to me to be an open question, for as I understand the matter, Mrs. Wright expects to start the school, and you would hardly expect to put more than one in that work at first.

I can not think it would be at all wise to withdraw entirely from this field, and leaving it entirely in native hands would, I think, be even more unwise. Although I do not think that progress here can be as rapid as I hoped, am sure it will come faster and faster. In La Barca, Mr. Bissell has done faithful work, for which I am confident he will have ample reward at the last; but whether there is any immediate prospect of immediate visible results or not, I can not say. I fear not. Please not hesitate about any point, fearing it may be distasteful to me. I seek only to know and do what is best for the work and am willing and anxious to consider any plans that might produce greater results, all things considered.

Yours truly,
John Howland

Rev. John [illegible]

Guadalajara, Jan. 16, 1890

Rec'd Jan. 27 24 p

Guadalajara. Mex.
Feb. 24. 1890.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.

Dear Sir.

You will be interested to know how matters have continued in Zapotlanejo. Quite contrary to our expectation the government took up the matter arresting one and trying to secure another, sending policemen to guard the house during service &c. We think there is no doubt but there was a long and heated discussion in the governor's council over the question of arresting and punishing the priest who caused the disturbance but nothing was done further than to admonish him. What has been done is, I think, quite sufficient to secure reasonable safety in the future. On the other hand other things show the character and temper of the people. The second or third day after our new man entered our house there, as he was sitting at his table studying, he was surprised by six men, armed and masked, who gagged bound and blindfolded him and then attempted a most fiendish outrage on his person. by almost superhuman efforts on his part. he is a large, strong and very courageous man - and what must have been divine interposition they were defeated in their object and left him without accomplishing their purpose. though he was very badly bruised and seriously wounded. As he had no clue whatever to lead to the discovery of the perpetrators of the outrage, he feared a knowledge of its attempt would only serve to intimidate the believers and encourage and excite the enemy so he tried to keep along as though nothing had happened and did so for a week, but during that time inflammation of the bowels and of the throat and of the wound had set in and increased until he saw that something must be done, so he got here as well as he could. With good medical treatment he was able to return within a week and is still there, doing all that can be done. We had to give up the house we had hired, but have secured another, right in the center, so near the government offices that nothing can happen without the full knowledge of the officers.

It is utterly impossible for you people at home to understand the political and social conditions here in Mexico. Elements of character, habits of thought and life, combinations of religious prejudice and false political ideas, — all foreign to our own experience and many of them inconceivable to the American mind — make up a situation that is utterly incomprehensible to those who are as imbued with ideas of justice and order as are we Yankees. Astounding abuses are committed daily by the government officials and there is no redress, even in secular matters. When you add to this the powerful influence of the Romish church, it is not strange that our people fear what their enemies may do to them.

I am very sorry that so many of

the believers fled, but we can not blame them for there is no doubt but that their lives were in the most immanent danger, and humanly speaking there would surely have been bloodshed had they remained. Other influences besides fear lead to their removal: several families were immediately ousted from their houses and no one would rent them others nor receive them even temporarily: and all who were working as employees were thrown immediately and hopelessly out of work. Only those could remain whose circumstances were such that they could sustain themselves in spite of the universal hostility. Moreover there were several families that were merely sojourning there, so of course, their employment gone, they had to remove. All these things depend on public opinion and not, in any way, upon the authorities. All who have remained there and those who left are firm in the faith so nothing is really lost, in fact there will be some gains, those who have removed will go "preaching the Word" but the work there in Zapotlanejo has suffered a blow from which it will be long in recovering.

The influenza is here and though it is quite mild, it has increased the poverty and suffering of the poor to an alarming extent.

You ask about our prospects for building. The lot we have is in such a public place that I do not think the municipal authorities will consent to our building on it unless the plan is one that will undeniably add to the beauty of the city. We had practically decided on a plan that would cost toward $5000.00 but finding that it was going to be harder than we anticipated to raise the money we have decided to modify the plan somewhat, and am now corresponding with some friends and architects and hope to soon complete a plan that shall come inside of $4000.00 and perhaps not cost much over $3000.00.

With what we raised last year, saved on our appropriation and have received thus far this year we have on hand something over $2000.00 and hope to receive more within a few months, so shall try and push plans &c. in the hope of being able to put on the roof before the June rains. We are very sorry to have to curtail our plans so much and until specifications are more exactly made out we can not know certainly what we can do with $3000.00. Every effort will be made to dissuade or discourage us. Almost every week some one comes, obviously as an emissary, to try and buy the lot, or to rent it for building. I do not anticipate any real trouble, as the deed was very carefully made out by the best lawy here.

At the beginning of the year I opened a night school with about a dozen pupils. Of these several are quite promising young men, whom I am thus training.

while they support themselves entirely. If they prove themselves to have real promise they should have more constant and efficient training later. but this could be arranged. Meanwhile they can be gotten over the most doubtful period of development without any expense to the mission, and without being exposed to the danger of being pauperized.

Mr. Bissell expects to attend the Conference in Parral the third of April and Mrs. B. will probably accompany him, leaving the older children here. Mr. B. has lessened his part of the "Testigo" this year with the purpose of doing more pastoral work.

We have heard very good reports of our new colleague Mr. Whaling, and we are much interested in the about to be established training school.

Very Truly

J. Howland

[illegible]

Feb. 24. 1870

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.
Western Mexico Mission.

Rev. Henry M. Bissell.
La Barca.

Rev. John Howland.
Apartado 13. Guadalajara.

Guadalajara, June 26. 1890.

Rev. N. G. Clark.

Dear Bro.:

During the year April 1st '89 to Apr. 20th '90 our mission moved on much as usual. the results are more satisfactory and outlook more hopeful. I include a little more than a year, because our conference which we intended to hold the last of March was postponed nearly a month out of deference to the Northern Miss.

Here in Guadalajara the church received a much larger number than in any previous year. twentyfive (25) adults being admitted on profession of their faith, a gain of about forty percent, ~~there having been two deaths of members~~. This increase has not resulted in a corresponding gain in the attendance at service, as quite a large proportion of the new members are from the surrounding villages

and will probably form nuclei for
other churches. The attendance has
been very constant with some increa
especially during the opening months of
(calendar) year. What is even more encou
aging than the numerical gain is the
obvious improvement in spirit and in
activity. The collections, which in past yea
have barely sufficed to cover incidental
expenses, have largely increased, being ove
$150.00 during the year of 87. The praye
meetings have been better sustained
and neighborhood prayermeetings have
been started and kept up by the brethre
for more than six months. The churc
has also assumed the responsibility for
services in San Sebastian, a village some
twelve miles south, sending some one
every Sabbath and furnishing pulpit,
the mission being at no expense excep
the use of a horse. This relieves Don Lin
Pacas and makes it possible for hi
to take up work elsewhere. We are als
comforted in thinking that we see mo

f a spirit of devotion to Christ and the church, and less of personal adhesion, and also less of readiness to yield to envy and anger.

In Tlajomulco there has also been improvement. Eight adults were received during the year, and attendance at services has been better and more constant. The school has prospered, being larger even than when we had the Methodist congregation with ours. ~~Magdaleno~~ J the pastor, has not only been able to hold together and build up the church but has won the respect and regard of the people of the village. We have been pleased to see how many and how warm testimonials have been given to his character and work, now that he has gone to another point. The church and neighbors were very unwilling that I should remove him, but the best interests of the work at large seemed to demand that he go to Tecuitatlan.

His place is taken, tho by no means

filled by Eugenio Rodriguez ou youngest worker but the most ambitious and perhaps the most promising. Have not yet completed arrangements for the school.

During the year Don Lino Pacas visited the villages of San Sebastian, Sa Agustin and Santa Cruz, to the south, between here and Tlajomulco none hav been received to membership from the points, but quite a number seem be coming forward and gaining better knowledge of the way of Life and more willingness to enter therein. He did not hold regular services in an of these places. but they have been sinc established in San Sebastian with an attendance of from eight to fift

In Cajititlan also, where Don Eugen has been stationed, progress has been mo indirect and general than numerical and visible. This has been partly due t frequent absence on the part of the worker to visit other points further south." Don Lino goes to take up th work there. I hope for a mutual impulse to him and to the work.

We have decided to abandon Chapala for the present and am very sorry to say, I have had to dismiss Antonio Gonzalez, who was stationed there. He is a bright young fellow and by no means wholly bad, but his falls were too frequent to be overlooked, and he seemed to lack the force of character necessary to break loose from his bad companions. I have hopes that he may yet be reformed as he has taken a room in the house of one of our best members and, not finding better work, has pocketed his pride and gone to hod carrying.

The work in the Hacienda of Sitála, of which I wrote last year, as resulting from the reading of our paper "El Testigo," has gone on during these past months. The believers meet regularly and have received frequent visits from Don Eugenio. Two more have been received to membership and quite a number more are anxious to be received. Sitála is about twelve miles from Teocuitatlan, and the brethren will doubtless attend servic at the latter place as soon as Don Miguel is able to get them fairly established. I have quite large hopes for the new work in Teocintatlan: presume I sha be disappointed in part at least.

You know the main facts about Zapotla The loss has been more apparent than real, we have received members almost continua who began to know the truth there. The alm complete breaking up of the congregation there owing largely to the fact that only two of th families held real estate there, the rest be subject to the wishes of landlords. Moreov being wholly impecunious, they can not liv where they can not get work. This being so, it is impossible to blame the people who have scattered in different villages wherever they can get work. The young fellow who was made the scapegoat of the rioters, i I believe, still in prison. The leader has b arrested twice or three times, but has alw escaped, obviously with the connivance of t officers. Services are regularly maintained but the attendance is small and consists almost exclusively of those who are members. These are constantly subjected to loss of work, threats etc. but are firm. As our house is on the public plaza people were in the habit of gathering about the door. Now the priest, who lives in the same block, keeps watch and if any one lingers near the door, he goes and warns him away.

In Cuquio we have three members and there are several who attend services, which are held regularly by Ricardo Contreras who has recently taken his family there.

I should have said that the work in Zapotlanejo is kept up by the same one who went there right after the disturbances, Don Sebastian Ramos. He has lately obtained his letter of dismission (He was one of the original congregationalists.) from the M.E. So. and has joined us.

Don José Lara and his wife Esther have been rather on the "loose pulley" since they were driven out of Zapotlanejo. Doña Esther has been quite unwell as the result, in part at least, of what she underwent.

there. They have visited the village of Ayo, some thirty miles N. E. of La Barc and found there a band of "believers" who are meeting almost daily to read th Scripture and talk about it. Dona Esthe is now much better and I hope to be able to settle them to some steady work som

As regards the situation in La Barc there is little to be said as there is n apparent change. One reason for delay in writing has been a reluctance to say anything about mission matte for am quite at a loss to know what is best. The B's feel that they better n stay longer in La Barca, and we can not but concur in that opinion. They are unwilling to come into the city, feelin that the condition of the work does not warrant the stationing of five of us here and there is no outstation where it wou seem wise for them to go. Mr. B. is a wise counsellor and we have alway had the pleasantest as well as the most intimate relations and we should feel his separation most keenly. It would seem a great pity that he should get out of the work of Spanish missions, especially so when there is a scarcity of laborers. He has an excellent knowledge of Spanish, acquaintance with the people and their customs, is faithful and active in the work, and above all is a man of the most earnest and sincere piety. I have heard that the doctors say that Mr. Case would be less likely to be troubled with his limb if he were at a lower altitude than Parral; and the No. Miss. in their recent conference spoke of his making a trip to explore Sinaloa with a view to opening work there. I should most heartily approve such a plan. There is a line of important places down through the center of Sinaloa from Fuerte down to Rosario that offer excellent openings for Gospel work, and thus we could connect the two missions, to the advantage of both. Should Mr. Case consent to such a plan it could be carried out and a new State taken up. with very little additional expense, if Mr B. were to take Mr. C's place. The two men are enough alike to make it easier for one to succeed the other than it would ordinarily be, and in my judgment Mr. B. is better fitted for the handling of work already started than for beginning new. Of course all this is merely in the way of suggestion and I presume the same, or much better plans have been presented to you, or have occurred to you.

Contributions for chapel come in slowly. We were much pleased by a check for $150.00, the other day, from some Boston people we met on one of the Raymond excursions. We hope to be all ready to begin to build after the rains, in Oct. or Nov.

Very truly yours.

John Howland.

S

Rev. J. Howland

June 26, 1890

Ansd

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Mision Congregacional.

Rev. JOHN HOWLAND.
Apartado del Correo 13.

Guadalajara, Nov. 17 de 1890.

Rev. N. G. Clark D.D.
Dear Bro.:—

I wrote a letter nearly two months ago, replying to yours in which you requested my opinion about Mr. Bissell's return, but I destroyed the letter, preferring not to influence you in one way or the other, for I could not make up my mind as to what was best. We received a letter from Mr. B. yesterday, and now yours of 5th inst. is at hand, notifying us of his transfer. Personally we are very sorry, for our relations have been of the pleasantest, and we shall find it very trying to be alone. On the other hand, we hope that the best interests of the Cause may be better promoted by the change, for the work here *can* be carried on, for the present, by one family. I do not know where the Ho. Miss. will decide to place Mr. B. but I think he is especially fitted to carry forward some work that has bee wisely begun; and there are several such points in the other Mission and none in this. It is a great grief to me that we have not been able to push this field. but we can not do it, I often fear the fault lies in the personnel of the mission; but be that as it may. I see no ground to expect anything but moderate progress in the face of multifari difficulties.

I have just accepted an invitation from the No. Miss. to be present at the meeting in C. Juárez, Dec. 20-28. I believe all of our missionaries are to be there and other Congregational workers; so the meeting can not but be productive of great good. I presume it will have much to do in shaping our policy along several lines, such as publications, theologica training &c. &c.

There are quite a number of items of interest in this field that I have neglecte to report, most of them of interest to you rather than to the public. There is a very determined effort being made by the Romanists to take away our chapel site. It is, evidently, very galling to them that we should have secured so central, and so public a lot. As the lot fronts on a new street there is need of a rectification of one or more of the boundaries. This I have been unable to secure as yet. Recently the City Council, probably realizing that they could not continue their policy of obstruction much longer, presented a formal request to the State government to "expropriate" me. The Gov's council notified me and requested me to show cause why it should not be done. With the help of one of the best lawyers here and of other influential friends, I drew up a reply stating that it was not a prerogative of the Gov. to expropriate; that even if it were, this is, in no way, a question of "public utility," but simply of prejudice; and that if any such action should be taken, I should make full use of national and international law to defend my rights. I have heard no more from them. I have little fear they will really get it away, tho' I anticipate a long and vexing fight. One of my first students has commenced a suit against me for work he did in the press six years ago. He has put the case into the hands of perfect scoundrel of a pettifogger. Of course there is not a shadow of justice in his claim, but Mex. courts have their peculiarities and neither he nor his lawyer hesitate to swear to the most atrocious lies. The case has been hanging on for about two months, but I think it will close soon, either by his withdrawing his suit or dropping it. It has cost me a good deal of worry, for the circumstances are such that it is extremely difficult to prove or disprove anything.

"Our ordained preacher, Miguel Magdaleno, took Mr. B— Brooks place in La Barca, and has been a good deal encouraged; several seeming to experience a real conversion. At last accounts the new believers were being persecuted, not violently but ~~very~~

persistently and severely. I hope to visit him this week. The church in Tlajomulco grieved greatly over Magdaleno's removal and at first refused to be reconciled at all to receiving Eugenio Rodriguez as his successor. A better spirit seems to be prevailing at present however, and I have hopes the church will soon get back into working order. The congregation in San Sebastian has continued quite successfully on the whole supplied entirely by the church here.

"In Zapotlanejo we have suspended work for the present as all the believers but one have been obliged to leave the place, and the local authorities would give us no real protection, so that no new ones dared come forward.

"Owing to a change in local authorities in Cuquio, there has been considerable persecution, that has threatened to become ~~very~~ serious. I made an informal complaint to the authorities here and received promises that there should be no further trouble. We shall see whether these promises are bona fide or not.

One of our workers, Sebastián Ramos, the one who held out so bravely in Zapotlanejo, received a severe blow from one of the heavy field gates through which he was passing an has been ~~very~~ seriously ill for over two months, the blow having resulted in inflammation of a lung and of the liver, the latter proving very obstinate.

Something more than two months ago, most of those believers in Citala, of whom I have written, were driven out from th hacienda, because they would not send their children to the parrochial school. They staye a month with some relatives in a neighborin villages when they were warned away. They stopped successively at two different haciendas, but were driven out as soon as it was known th they were protestants. At last accounts they wer at a small village, where the Methodists have a congregation. They were unmolested, but at th same time, unable to find work, so they will p have to move on again.

“Nov. 18th I was interrupted yesterday by an incident that serves as a good illustration of what almost continually happens to our work. There have been members in San Sebastián for five or six years, and there has been no disturbance and practically no persecution altho' services have been held openly for several months, with an attendance of from ten to fifteen. But, last Sunday, a crowd awaited the young man who went from here to hold the services, insisting that he drink with them. Fortunately he was accompanied by one of the believers who belonged in the village. The believer answered for the other, saying that they knew very well that he would not drink and that if they wanted to trouble anyone to take him and let the other go on his way. He then got away and accompanied the other well out of the village. On his return he was met by a crowd with swords and knives who at once attacked him. After parrying several murderous blows that nearly severed his heavy walking stick, he struck his chief aggressor, felling him to the ground. This demoralized the others and they allowed him to go his way. Early the next morning he came here. Today, he returns to his home: but we shall, very naturally, be somewhat anxious about the matter until we hear further. I have come to expect violence everywhere, sooner or later.

Since Coronas assassination the government has been ~~very~~ largely in the hands of the clerical party, which in a country like this, means a great deal. There are to be elections (?) this month and it seems probable that the next Governor — to enter next March — will be more liberal.

The school seems to be prospering, the number of pupils being as large as at any time although there are now no boys, excepting three little ones who come to the kindergarten.

As you may imagine, it is impossible for me to send estimates until I know what is to be done about our paper, etc. I will do so at the earliest possible date. In general I will say that I very much wish that we might have the same amount as last year. Am sure that it would be unwise to reduce the amount.

Very truly yours,

John Howland.

5

John Howland
Guadalajara
Nov 17 18[illegible]

Guadalajara, Mexico
Sept. 21, 1891.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.
Boston Mass.
Dear Sir:—

Yours of the 11th inst. is just received. Am very sorry that you are still lacking details necessary for making up your report. Unless am very much mistaken Mrs. Harland reported number of church members, pupils, etc.; but as the items went in a general letter presume they did not answer your purpose.

We have only two (2) organized churches
Guadalajara with eightyfive (85) members
Tlajomulco " fortyfive (45) "
To the former nineteen (19) were received during the year (Mch. 31, '90 to Apr. '91) fourteen (14) on profession of faith and five (5) who had been previously baptized. To the latter there was only one (1) addition — by profession — during the same time. I have had no training class during the year. Miss Haskins has had fiftyfour (54) girls in her school of whom about twentyfive (25) have been boarders. We have maintained one common school —

Tlajomulco — with about thirty (30) pupils. The Guadalajara church raised, during the year, about $134.65½ and the Tlajomulco church about $20.00, for various objects.

Services have been sustained in four (4) other points, viz. La Barca, Teocuitatlán, San Sebastián, Cuquio. Services were held for several months in Zapotlanejo and Cajititlán.

I trust you will pardon the oversight in not mentioning the grant of $500.00. Believe me we are deeply grateful for the timely aid and for your thoughtfulness in securing it for us. I have been waiting to see how I could get through the year with the appropriation before making any specific use of the grant. The law suit over the chapel cost over one hundred dollars and there have been other unexpected expenses. On the other hand I have been able to reduce expenses in various ways. So am not quite sure just how I shall come out. Whatever be the use we make of the money it will be a great relief to us.

The chapel affair dragged along through many and vexing complications and I continually deferred writing until I could state something definite and thus the time went without any letter. All the time I was "over my ears" in work and worry.

Very briefly the case was this: the first attempt was to "condemn" for public use. By legal aid I showed that owing to a defect in the State legislation this could not be done except by the National Congress. Just as the other side was giving up the fight, and had promised to arrange the boundary line, some one brought to light an "edict" of a governor in revolutionary times, in 1858 - condemning our property and other property on either side. The edict was unconstitutional in itself and any force it might have had, had lapsed during the more than thirty years during which it had been forgotten. It does not exist in the official records, and the governor had to *borrow* a copy of a friend in order to consider it. In spite of all this the governor and his council declared the edict to be in force and directed the city council to carry it out. While they delayed, I, to force the issue began work. and was promptly stopped by the police. I at once appealed to the Supreme court and after several months received a decision that declared the suspension to be unlawful and null, but made no reference to the doubt thrown upon my title. This was not wholly satisfactory. but I at once set to work. following the best legal advice, and now the walls are very nearly completed. Am sure my title is perfectly secure. except against a new act of condemnation. in which case the city would have to pay all costs and damages. My deed is from the Federal treasury department and was given over twenty years after the "edict" The clerical organ gave up the fight saying that it grieved them to have to acknowledge it. but that all that had been done to get us out was illegal and worse than useless. One of the best proofs of our security is that I have been several times approached by offers to buy us out.

The chapel is not large and will be quite simple, but it is neat and pretty and will attract a great deal of attention. Our enemies say that "the devil is in us" that we get along so fast and get so cheaply, and that even Heaven itself helps us by withholding the heavy rains which usually fall during the season. They are not willing to admit that the Lord is on our side, but say that it is a punishment for their sins. The lot has proved a very good bargain, and were they to pay us $10,000.00 for it, (as am inclined to think they would) we should be worse off. All the foundation stone, sand and most of the adobe have come from the lot itself; we have sold stone to more than pay for cartage of rubbish, whereas in most cases the cartage is a bill of fifty to a hundred or more dollars. I have done all the superintendence, $.62½ per day being the highest wages I pay. The "boss mason" is one of our deacons and all the people have

had "a mind to work". The architects
labor was not a "gift", as I had
asked Mr. Ward to pay the bill.
Of course with an American plan
and only ordinary Mexican workers
I have had to be in constant attendance
so have barely had time even to eat
all summer. Meanwhile have carried
the church work and our paper with
less help than ever before. We hope
you may be able to secure an
assistant for Miss Haskins very soon
Would not Dr. Bliss of the N. W. Ed.
Com. be willing to pass over some of
his teachers?

Sincerely
John Howland.

Rev. John Howland.
Guadalajara Sept. 21.
Rec'd Sept. 25, '91.

Guadalajara Jal.

Rev N. G. Clark, Boston — Nov 6. 1887

Dear Sir —

Yours of Oct. 28th came recd last eve. We rejoice in your increased interest in Mexico and your mission and no one is so well fitted as Mr. Eaton to present the situation. Am glad the Juárez school is to be reinforced but was surprised that there is a prospect of drawing from the denomination. Were it for a missionary I should hardly give the matter a second thought, but for a teacher in a school, where our pastors are to be educated, it would seem to me to have very grave disadvantages. A true teacher must teach *himself*. If this man is ~~an~~ intelligently and conscientiously a Methodist he *must* give a certain impress to young minds under his care that would not be what we want. If he has no decided and clear denominational convictions, I should set him down as mentally (if not morally) slipshod, and hence unfit to shape men. One of the most serious difficulties in the way of our training up good preachers comes from the danger of their being drawn away by the Methodists, indeed this was the principal reason that caused me to give up having young men with me as students; and one of the greatest evils that attend protestant efforts in Mexico is that of change of denominational relations on the part of workers, so that it seems to me that to introduce a Methodist – however good he may be – into such an important position would be to handicap him very heavily and also put the school at a disadvantage. Excuse my frank expression of opinion on the subject. It seemed my duty to say what I feel; but on the other hand, I assure you that I have the fullest confidence in your judgment and that of Mr. Eaton, and above all in the guiding hand of Him whose work we are trying to do, and shall give the new brother a sincere welcome and hearty cooperation if Providence brings him to Mexico. Who is the man? It is pleasant to be able to give a name and local habitation to the subject of our thought and interest.

The relations between the different parts of the work in Mexico are becoming continually more intimate and I have done all I could to promote this and whether the time has come or not to formally unite the two is not so clear in my mind. I have looked forward to it as desirable, but had hoped it would not take place for another year at least. In many respects the work is one, but on the other hand the two fields are very different as any one who has worked in both will testify. Methods that are successful at the North can not yet be applied here. I was talking of this yesterday with Mr. Scoggins, the new presiding elder of Jalisco who has been presiding elder in Sinaloa and in Coahuila and he says methods must be very different in that section and this. But if there are strong reasons for effecting the union at once, as I presume there are, I will of course, submit to the inevitable and do my utmost to secure perfect harmony in plans and efforts. Is all the North mission in favor of the change? If I am not much mistaken Messrs Crawford and Bissell, who are better fitted than any one else to judge of the matter would not think it desirable at present.

We are awaiting the arrival of the lumber and iron for the roof of our chapel the latter comes from Cleveland, and goes to Orange Tex, to join the lumber, as I thus hope to avoid duties and to secure whole-car rates. The Mexican tariff admits free, "structures of wood and iron" while it charges nearly $.02 per lb. duty on iron. Have not yet ordered windows, bell, &c. waiting to hear from some of our friends whom we hope will help us, so that we can secure something a little better than the present state of our funds would warrant. Meanwhile we are putting in the sidewalk and doing little "odds and ends" so as to be able to finish quickly when the [illegible] and windows arrive. We can not yet set a definite date for the dedication but hope to be ready for it by March at the latest. Would that not be a good opportunity for you to visit the field? and at the same time avoid the trying weather of N. E. at that season? We certainly should be most happy to welcome you, and have you see the chapel and the field.

Miss Haskins' friend was to start the 27th of Oct. but we haven't heard from her since, so don't know what to think. Even if the plan has not fallen through, she does not expect to stay more than a few months, so we hope the regular assistant may be forthcoming without much delay. The school is large and it really is too much for one person to do. Mrs Howland is taking a few classes temporarily. She miss Kitchen was not content with the house we secured for her so she moves again tomorrow. The rent where she goes is more, but we still economize as in formerly. We are all well and busy.

Sincerely,

John Howland

John Howland
Guadalajara
Nov. 6 1891

Guadalajara, México.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.   Nov. 28. 1891.

Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:—

Yours of 18th inst. is just received and I hasten to answer.

As to the union of the two Mexican Missions, am sorry to seem to oppose the action of the committee in the matter, but it seemed to be my duty to express my opinion on the subject. It is not that the plan strikes me unfavorably, but only that the notice was too short to make it possible to complete arrangements satisfactorily. The more I think about it and try to plan for it, the more am inclined to think that the final result will be much more satisfactory if we can have this year on the old footing, or at least a part of it. As I wrote to Mr. Ward, on the 2[illegible]th, there are many things that make a real union out of the question, just at present. The paper, for instance, I have already compromised myself to outlays and changes for the coming year; and other details must be attended to at once, without allowing any delay for consultation. It would not be at all pleasant for me to have the other brethren shoulder the responsability for things, concerning which they have not had an opportunity to express an opinion. On the other hand, it is, I think, practically decided that the paper go north, anyway, next year; and even if it should not go, there would be abundant time to arrange all details by vote of the mission. This is only one of quite a number of matters that would call for explanations and forbearance if the union were effected at once, whereas, if there is a delay, we can come to a better understanding and to full agreement on all points before taking the steps. and you know that is always much pleasanter than doing it the other way. I shall try and attend the annual meeting of the Northern Mission in any case, and hope they will be represented at our dedication. If there be no serious objection to postponing the union a year, it would seem to me to be wise to do so: but, in any case, shall do my best to carry out the decision of the committee.

We were very sorry to learn that there is no hope of your visiting us. When I urged it, I supposed it would be a relaxation rather than a strain for you. Much as we wish you could be present, we would not want you to come at a sacrifice of your strength.

Miss Reed, Miss Haskin's friend, arrived the 7th. and took hold at once of English classes and other work. We like her very much and would be glad if she could stay but she insists that it is impossible for her to remain more than a month or two longer. We hope that an assistant may be found meanwhile, as the school is more than Miss Haskins ought to bear alone.

It is characteristic of the two denominations that while we are doing all we can to improve our training school, the Meth. So. are seriously thinking of giving up theirs, and putting all their 17 & 18 year old boys at work as pastors.

Am sorry that I annoyed you by poor ink. Have found it almost impossible to secure a good copying ink. Was not aware that your sight was defective -

Sincerely -
John Howland.

Guadalajara, Nov. 28, 1891
Rec'd Dec. 5

Guadalajara, México.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D. D. Dec. 14. 1891.

Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:—

Yours of Dec. 5. is just recd. Yours of Nov. 25 & 27 also came duly to hand. I delayed answering the latter two waiting for the decision of the Prudential committee on my request. I take it from what you now say that you did not deem it best to bring the matter again before the committee and that it is definitely decided that the two missions must be united at the end of this year. Am very sorry, but suppose there must have been some good reason for the step.

It was a pleasure to receive a special contribution from Conway, particularly as it was quite large for a church in their circumstances, and as it is twenty years since I have lived there. Our friends have been very cordial in our assistance-

Thanks for your consideration in the matter of salary. We were expecting an increase, owing to an anticipated increase in our fam and presume it may be wise to p the whole mission on the same foot as the average cost of living is not, think, much different here, and on the fron

As to the paper, the decision of th mission seems to be that it can n be transferred just at present: so already preparing the first numbe

Yours truly

John Howland

Rev. John Howland
Guadalajara, Dec. 13, 1891
Filed Jan. 5, 1892

MISION CONGREGACIONAL.

Rev. JUAN HOWLAND.
Apartado del Correo. 13.
Redaccion de "El TESTIGO."

Guadalajara, Dec. 23 de 1891.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D. D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:—

I have not written about the matter of estimates for the coming year, because I understood that your calculations, as contained in your letter of Nov. 27th, were based on the union of the missions, and as I was led to expect that my wish for the delay of that union might be granted, I did not care to raise the subject. But now that it seems to be settled that the missions must unite at once, I most urgently call your attention to the matter.

You say that you put our allowance at Guadalajara "leaving a little margin for reserve," etc., then after mentioning an increase of salary, i.e. the giving us at the same rate as the other members of the mission — though

in reality it will be less, owing
to prospective increase of family -
you put our allowance at "$1,800.0
gold". I can not but believe th
to be a mistake, but can not res
until it is corrected. When we
were notified of the reduction of
twenty per cent in appropriations, as p
your letter of March 11, it was st
that we must bring our estimates f
the Guadalajara work for 1892 down to $5,600
gold. This I had expected to do, thou
I understand that receipts are
very much improved since then, an
it will be difficult to do it. Wha
then can be meant by a furth
reduction of over fifty per cent
With the proposed increase of sala
the reduction on the work would be
nearly fifty six per cent. I trust
is not necessary to do more th
call attention to the situation, t
have the mistake remedied.

You have assured me over a

over that I shall not be embarrassed in the work. Of course I understood this to refer to pressure from head quarters. For as regards arrangements in the mission, it requires no prophet to see that, with each member of the mission impressed with the importance of his or her work, we of Jalisco, with a harder field and less rapid visible result. and with a total vote of three out of eighteen, will fare hard. My only consolation was the assurance that you and Mr. Ward would stand by us in seeing that we were not crowded to the wall. This being so, to have the ground cut entirely from under us, from head quarters would practically break up the work here.

I will not attempt to go into detail, but would simply state that we have contracts for houses that amount to about $900.00 for the year and of course these must be fulfilled

even were it possible to further reduce th
amount needed. So I could ca
for, if we dismiss workers, they an
their followers would undoubtedly
taken up at once by other denomin
but our estimate for workers is $1

I find myself embarassed and
perplexed even more than I feare
Mr. Ward writes that he shall
send me no more funds, which I
suppose means that I shall have
simple monthly allowance based
the estimate given in your lette
but I have already spent about $3
for our paper, and a work like this
must have some leeway in the
of funds advanced.

Of course I understand that you
expected that "El Testigo" was going t
Juárez, but the allowance for that
is only $600.00 Mexican. – a very slight
of the difference – and it has been
decided that the paper remain he
for the present at least.

I have been disappointed in several directions about contributions for our chapel and shall need some help in that direction, in the shape of money ahead, to meet obligations, until I can raise it among friends. Of course I can secure it here, but dislike to do so, and should not need to do it, were I still in direct relations with Mr. Ward, who always kept us ahead. A mission treasurer can not do this to any extent, even if he wished.

I am extremely sorry to have to seem to be continually finding fault or making objections, and was fully determined to say nothing further on the subject of union, but this matter of appropriations touches the very existence of the work here.

Wishing you a "Happy New Year"
I remain—

Yours ~~truly~~
John Harland.

Guadalajara, Dec. 23. 1891.

Recd Jan. 1. 1891.

copy of this sent to
mr. Ellison & Dr. Strong
holds a copy for Dr. Webb –
C. N. C.

MISION CONGREGACIONAL.

Rev. JUAN HOWLAND.
Apartado del Correo. 13.
Redaccion de "EL TESTIGO."

Guadalajara, Jan. 5. de 1892.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.

Dear Sir:—

Perhaps I should have sent you detailed estimates for 1892 instead of merely calling your attention to the amount you promised us, namely $5600.00 gold. I herewith send them. I have put our salaries as you put them, tho' I suppose that will not be definitely settled until our annual meeting in April. Should it be decided to leave them at present rates the amount would be $165.00 (mex.) less and there will *probably* be a margin from exchange as I note on the list.

Yours truly
John Howland.

Jan. 5 1892

Guadalajara Mex.
Feb. 1. 1892.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:—

I delayed answering your first letter, knowing that you must receive mine, giving details, within a day or so. Am sorry for the whole trouble, and though can not feel myself to have been wholly at fault, I care little where the blame is put so long as the work does not suffer. My mistake was in paying too much attention to the notification of allowance. I supposed that would be made the basis and that it made the sending of estimates a mere formality that could wait until the question of mission were settled. Am sorry for my dullness as well as for my remissness in writing. I do not understand your remark that my estimates for

1891 include no mention of school. I find in my letter of Jan. 9. 1891. the item "Schools $600.00" nearly all of which is for Miss Haskins work here in the city. You also seem to have the impression that we are increasing our force and our aid rendered. when it is exactly the reverse. I have been steadily reducing both items. so much so in fact that have found it very hard to avoid open disaffection many saying that I care more for saving expense to the mission than for the growth of the work. I shall do my utmost to still further reduce outlay without hurting the work and think can do so to some extent. The work was begun and managed here for ten or fifteen years. and is still carried on right by our side in such a way that it makes it extremely difficult to do as we would in many matters. By our prayers and in other ways we are developing a better feeling but it is slow work. There are several points where I would like to send a preacher, but am steadily refusing to do so until am satisfied that there is something there,—a goodly number of those who love the Truth and will hold it any cost. In this way, we have little "lay" services in two points with only very occasional visits by a worker. But as these points are far apart, our traveling bill is heavy.

I suppose questions of our paper, etc., will be settled at our annual meeting in Chihuahua, Mch. 27-Apr. 3, After exasperating delays am hoping for the arrival of our roof, for the chapel in a few days.

Sincerely

John Howland.

P.S. Our family was increased, Jan. 16. by the arrival of another daughter Marion Reed.

MISION CON

REV. JUAN HOWLAND.
APARTADO DEL CORREO. 13.
Redaccion de "EL TESTIGO."

Rec'd Feb. 10

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.
Boston, Mass,
Dear Sir

reached me here, Bein
thinking the matter of ex
Haskins' school not to be
delayed writing. Pract
of $600.00 is for her s
we have a good scho
pupils in Tlajomulco
by the pastor and his
little expense & the
be said about the litt
Miss Haskins' school
to $600.00 Mexican silver without
per month and Jose
month.

Am glad to hear
Miss White. I do not
myself until I can

247

IGREGACIONAL.

Chihuahua
Guadalajara Apr. 2 de 1892.

:—

Yours of March 18th
g excessively busy and
xplaining about Miss
very important, I had
tically the whole item
chool. It is true that
ol of from 25 to 30
o, but as it is taught
daughter it is very
mission, the same may
ttle school in La Barca.
, then, takes from $300.00
counting her rent — $32.00
fa's salary — $15.00 per

f the prospect about
t care to commit
consult with Mrs. H.

and Miss Haskins. but should judge from your letter that she would suit us very well indeed. Her getting along with Miss Haskins would depend much on her temperamen Any good christian woman who was fairly frank could, I am sure, get along nicely. Mrs. Eaton seems to feel that Miss Holcom would better come to us, but I can not it in that light. A Miss Abbie Hull from Albuquerque has been with us here several days. She would, I think, enter the work, an is a, if we are not mistaken, a most estimab young lady and an earnest Christian. She is reserved to work well in a place like ours. There seems to be an abundance of lady candidat for Mexico; surely it ought to be possible to supply our wants, from so many.

Mr. Horace Houlding has also been here all the week, brought here largely by Mr Wright as a probable candidate for appoint ment to this mission, and we were asked to vote in his favor. This we could not do, unde the circumstances. We like and respect th man, and would much like to have hi among us, but he does not seem to be

MISION CONGREGACIONAL.

Rev. JUAN HOWLAND.
Apartado del Correo. 13.
Redaccion de "EL TESTIGO."

Guadalajara. de 189 .

the man for the training school and we can hardly expect to have work in Juárez except as auxiliary to the school. There seems to be a strong feeling that Mr. Wright ought to be able to carry on the school with the assistance of Miss Stahl, at least for a year or two, especially as the Mission decided not to transfer *"El Testigo"*; and that Mr. & Mrs. Olds ought to enter at once on their work at Cosihuiriachic. A clause was appended to a memorial to the Board urging the necessity of having a new man, but it was pressed through by Mr. Wright himself *against* the judgment of the Eatons and several of the rest of us. Wright has a most heterogeneous mass of students, and should, we think, ~~st~~ *sift* them, so as to have less classes. We have had a very harmonious and enjoyable meeting and feel encouraged in every way. I was unable to secure the transference of "El Testigo" to Juárez, the wish of the Mission being unanimous against it. I was glad to have a visit of four days with Dr. Webb in Guadalaj and we have been much pleased to have him with us here with us. I go to Juarez on Monday, in pursuance of my new duties as member of the advisory board. Mr. Eaton's chapel is being rapidly pushed forward by the contractor. I hope to roof ours as soon as I return but shall "go slow" about furnishing as am short of funds- Will write you again soon after my return to Guadalajara.

Very sincerely

John Howland.

Ap. 2 1892

MISION CONGREGACIONAL.

REV. JUAN HOWLAND.
APARTADO DEL CORREO, 13.
Redaccion de "EL TESTIGO."

Guadalajara. Apr. 20 de 1892.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:—

Miss Haskins was away when I returned from Chihuahua. visiting in Mexico in company with Miss Reed, her friend who has assisted her gratuitously for five months. Miss H. is now alone again. As regards an assistant— we would like to know a little more about Miss White, if possible. Why did she leave Japan? did she have any trouble with her associates there? What is her present address? Miss Haskins has been alone so long that, of course, it will not be easy for her to give up very much to an assistant; on the other hand she has a most excellent spirit and would, I am sure, never *make* any trouble. Almost any lady, fairly frank even tempered and patient would find in Miss H. a pleasant associate. I was inclined to hope for a young assistant. Single ladies often get to have rather marked peculiarities as they become more advanced in life. and I had thought that a younger lady might come in with less friction. But I do not anticipate any trouble in any case. and certainly hope we shall not be disappointed in having ~~some~~ one by the fall at the latest.

On my return from Juárez I had a little chat with Mr. Eaton who came to the station to see me. By what I saw in Juárez and by my conversation with Mr. E. I was more confirmed in what my opinion which I expressed to you in my letter from Chihuahua — namely. that Mr. Olds should go to Cosi. as soon as their school closes. with the idea of remaining there. At that, by systematizing classes, etc, Mr. Wright can carry on the school for the present, with the aid of Miss Stahl and Mr. Birless, and that evangelistic work in Ciudad Juarez is not of importance enough, as compared with other points, to be thought of as needing another man.

I was much pleased with my visit to the school. There is some good material there and good work is being done.

Am hard at work putting the roof on my chapel. We have no derricks or other conveniences, so have to do a good deal of contriving and of hard work to get the trusses in place.

Yours very truly
John Howland.

Rev. John Andrews
Ap. 20 1892
Gen. Del. papers

present he has only two hours n
at the school. Miss Stahl is very
efficient and is the principal teac
At present their school are of all
grades, but there should and proba
will be a sifting out before next
term, which would considerably
lighten the labor. Miss Stahl sp
three quarters of an hour daily
teaching a young man to read! a
one other reads with difficulty.
am strongly of the opinion that m
whose mental machinery is so defec
a so rusty that they can't read, o
learn to do so in a comparitively
short space of time, have no place
such a school. Mr. Birlew is qui
efficient also, and relieves Mr.
almost entirely of the manual train
department and is pastor of the
new Mex. congregation at El Paso.
Now that the mission decided n
to transfer the paper, it is the
feeling of all members of the m
~~that~~ except Messrs Wright and

MISION CONGREGACIONAL.

REV. JUAN HOWLAND.
APARTADO DEL CORREO, 13.
Redaccion de "EL TESTIGO."

Guadalajara. May 25 de 1892.

Rev. N. G. Clark. Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:—

Mr. Wright forwarded to me the letter from Cuba and your request that it be translated. I send today the letter and its translation. I have had several letters from the same person, and have written him once. Am in doubt whether these people are simply a few malcontents or really simple hearted believers. Could our Board get a good footing in Cuba. I should think it very desirable, but should recommend careful investigation of the situation. Mr. Scofield seems interested in the matter, but I should think the work would fall to the A.B.C.F.M. more naturally than to the Home Miss. Soc. I will try and get more information, and if I succeed, will forward it at once to you.

Sincerely

John Howland.

Rec'd June 3d

MISION CONGREGACIONAL.

Rev. JUAN HOWLAND.
Apartado del Correo. 13.
Redaccion de "EL TESTIGO."

Guadalajara. July 13 de 1892.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.
Boston. Mass.

Dear Sir:—

Yours of June 20th was received the 2nd of this month. I have delayed a few days so as to be able to assure you not that we *would* write to Miss White, but that we *had* done so, and Mrs. Howland has been much hindered. We are very glad indeed to know that she is likely to come, for we had begun to fear we not to have anyone after all.

As Miss Holcomb was especially chosen by the Eatons in person I should think it would be much better that Miss White come here instead of having any change. Miss Haskins is intending to make this term longer than usual, closing the last of August. This would make the new term open about November 1st. It seems to me that it would be better for Miss White to come

late in September, o
& get acquainted, p
language, and gene
new term opens.

Our chapel is ne
windows inside p
be able to dedicate
you a "proof" that I
which will give an
ance. I have alread
tributions, which ha
"rills," but am hop
seemed much pl
and led us to hop
help us out if w
than $2000.00. We p
amount, but will pl
thousand more. an
ask for $1000.00 fr
some from what we
not call for the $200.0
printing, so a grant
really be considera

Sincere

or early in October so as
a little started in the
erally adjusted before the

early done, lacking only the
ainting, etc. We hope to
early in October. I send
took a short time since.
idea of its general appear-
dy gotten ahead of the con-
ave mostly been little
king for more. Dr. Webb
leased with the site, etc.
pe that the Board would
ne did not need more
hall lack just about that
ledge ourselves to raise one
d very much want to
om the Board. We shall save
e estimated and probably shall
o asked for by the mission for
of the sum named would
bly less. All well-
ly John Howland.

Feby 13 1882

Mision C

Rev. JUAN HOWLAND.
Apartado del Correo 13.
Redaccion de "EL TESTIGO."

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.

Dear Sir:—

Your
27th have just co
already heard the
which I had [illegible]
time. Thanks for y
pathy.

Am sorry to be
required inform
building within
which have alread
owing to some
The site for the
which was covered
unused balance
The cost of the edifice to date
thousand five hu
$7000.00 expended

The amount
dalajara is a l

CONGREGACIONAL.

Guadalajara. Sept. 8 de 1892.

two letters of Aug. 26th and
me, together. I had
news of my father's death,
expecting for some
your expressions of sym-

unable to get you the
ation about our church
the ten days designated,
dy more than passed
delay in your letter.
building cost $1500.00
d by allowing us the
e on our appropriations
e has been $5500.00 (five
hundred) — making
e in all.
received from Gua-
little less than six

hundred dollars ($600.00). This am will, I think, be somewhat increased soon.

The whole amount raised from friends is a little less than $4000.0 (four thousand dollars. so that am now in debt about $1500.00 (fifteen hundred dollars) and have paintin duties on glass, &c. &c. yet to pay.

All figures I have given are in Mexican s

I have been disappointed in ma ways, particularly here in Guadala wealthy friends contributing only with pitiful amounts. The church has d quite fairly well considering thei extreme poverty.

Thus far the Board has not real contributed anything, the lot comin out of appropriations, and the $300.0 you so kindly secured for this stati all going for other extraordinary expenses as I notified you at the

I was very pleasantly surprised see an engraving of the building the last Herald. The building att a great deal of attention and missionaries from other parts are much surprised to learn its cost. Mr. Salmans formerly of Puebla declares it to be nicer than one they (the Meth) erected for $10,000.00 gold.

We have been obliged to give up our pleasant house and have had a great deal of trouble in finding anything at all suitable. It is surprising, even to us, to find what a hold the clergy have on property and property owners. We finally secured one in which we are fairly comfortable. We can be happy almost anywhere, but needs things convenient for our work.

As you know, exchange is very high 52 & 57 % premium. so a grant would be particularly opportune now.

Sincerely

John Howland

Guadalajara, Sept 8. /92.

Rec'd Sept. 15. 1892.

SION OF THE AMERICAN BOARD TO MEXICO.

John Howland	Guadalajara.
J. D. Eaton.	Chihuahua.
M. A. Crawford.	Hermosillo.
H. M. Bissell	El Fuerte.
A. B. Case.	Parral.
A. C. Wright.	El Paso, Texas.
O. C. Olds,	Cusihuiriachic.

* * *

THE RIO GRANDE

CONGREGATIONAL TRAINING SCHOOL.

Supported jointly by
THE AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS,
AND
THE NEW WEST EDUCATION COMMISSION.

~~El Paso Texas.~~ Guadalajara 11/22/92

ev. N. G. Clark. D. D.
Boston, Mass.
Dear Sir:—

Returning from Chihuahua and El Paso I found yours of Oct. 25th awaiting me. I regret having neglected to write you to express my thanks for the grant of $1000.00 You did, indeed, do "a good thing." The draft netted me just $1500.00 Mex. silver. I acknowledged it at once to Mr. Ward, and fully intended to write to you also, but it was one of the things that got left undone in the press of work, getting ready for my trip.

You will have heard from the dedication at Chihuahua; it was a most successful affair, and the building is a fine one. Am also much pleased with the new buildings at El Paso. Enjoyed my "conferences" with the boys there, especially as they seemed intereste and and pleased.

Mrs. Howland's mother and cousin and Miss White met me there and accompanied me home. We are much pleased with Miss White and trust she may have her healt and get nicely adjusted in the school. He tastes and opinions are quite different from those of Miss Haskins: but both hav such an excellent Christian spirit and su a readiness to make sacrifices, that we are sure there will be no trouble in getting everything into good running order. Am sure also that the fact that each of the ladies is strongly attached to Mrs. Howland will give the latter an opportunity to use her tact in giving matters their due direction.

Will do as you request about school property. Am sorry I did not know of the possibility of buying, two months sin for the property which I have for year considered as the most desirable one for the Mission has been sold, and no "is not for sale at any price." But the are other desirable places which doubtless can be obtained, and I w send estimates as soon as possible. As we had a majority of the mission present at the dedication in Chihuahua we made an informal agreement to change the time of our annual meeting from March to Jan. 14th to 22nd and we here will delay the dedication of the new building until then. We are very anxious, as you already know, that some official representative of the Board be present at our annual meetings. We particularly desire it this year, as no one has been here except Dr. Webb and then there were no especial meetings, and now in addition to our regular meeting we shall have the dedication of the new building, and the consideration of site and plans for the school. On the other hand it is the worst season to be at the North, while here we have lovely weather. May we not see you, or Dr. Smith here then? or at

least the field secretary? It woul
we are sure, give a great impulse
the work and at the same time be
a pleasant outing for the one wh
should come.

Our work here is much as usu
rather more encouraging in all dep
ments.

Sincerely
John Howland

Nov. 22 1892
[illegible]

MISION CONGREGACIONAL.

REV. JUAN HOWLAND.
APARTADO DEL CORREO, 13.
Redaccion de "EL TESTIGO."

Guadalajara. 1/23 de 1893.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.

Dear Sir:—

Your letter was duly rec'd and partially answered by Mrs. Howland. I have spent a great deal of time looking at property, examining titles, etc., as has also a good house broker:—but we have been unable to find anything as yet which would seem to be "just the thing". Several properties which I should have been willing to urge, can not be bought at any price, some because they are occupied by their owners, others belong to the church, others to priests, and others are involved in legal tangles or have defective titles. The whole section of the city in which our church building is situated is very largely in the hands of the priests, who own the most desirable houses. It seems to me it would be unwise to push ahead and buy unless we had a real good thing

so good that there would be very little f
that we should afterwards wish we had
waited. Am waiting for an answer f
the owners of two properties, and have
two or three others in mind. Hope to see m
way clear to recommend one soon.

I send you invitation and program
of the dedication of the church building
and program of the public exercises
the annual meeting. All passed off
very successfully. The attendance at the
dedication was about five hundred. I ha
no doubt it would have been even larg
but for the fact that for months reports h
been widely and assiduously spread to the ef
that we should never be allowed to dedica
that powder, dynamite and arms were prep
to blow up the building and kill the pasto
Of course all this was very absurd, on the
face of it, but many were frightened.
The mayor, of his own accord, knowing
the reports, sent two special policemen

and four of the mounted police, but there was no need for them, all was very quiet and orderly and there was the best of attention during the whole service. As the exercise was decidedly and exclusively religious, there was a small attendance on the part of the wealthy Mexicans. Sunday evening we received six to the church, on confession of their faith, baptized four infants, and performed a marriage ceremony. All through the week we had public services every night (except Saturday) and every afternoon (except Thurs. and Sat.) The attendance on all these exercises was very good, and new ones are being attracted.

The building is praised by every one, and is well adapted to its purpose. The painting is simple, but very effective; the acoustic effects excellent; the ventilation complete and easily controlled; the light very abundant but soft and pleasing. We have not finished the new seats for the prayer meeting room and the bell has been unaccountably delayed, and the failure of the firm that furnished our glass has delayed the replacing of cracked panes. So we shal be busy there for some weeks yet. I ha been much pleased to see so little tende to make us tremble. We have a nice iv growing on the tower, bananas and other plants in the corners of the octagonal en

The view I sent you does not do the building justice, and I hope to send a bet one soon, as also of the interior.

You will, of course, have full reports of the mission meeting: on many accou it was quite unsatisfactory. There seeme to be an uncertainty as to what would be best to do, and some reluctance to take action that would result in wide and far reaching changes. I can hardly forese what will be the outcome. There seem to be a unanimous desire that I be in the Training School but some wanted I should be associated with Mr. Wright, others that I should exchange places with him, and others were unwilling to remove me from Lua. fearing the work would suffer just when it ought to go forward, so no real action was taken, though a petition for a new man was adopted by a very small and close vote. The objections to the first plan were various, some not wishing that I should be assistant, but rather that I should have the responsability of the discipline: and others thinking that there is no need of two missionaries there. The difficulty with the second plan was that it would be a hard and unjustifiable blow to Mr. Wright, who, though I am sure he would not have rebelled, would certainly have been exceedingly sorry to leave the School, and to move him against his wish would imply failure on his part, which is not, by any means true. Much to the surprise of the rest of us, the suggestion came from the Eatons themselves that possibly they would take the work here: but when interrogated on the subject they did not seem disposed to entertain the proposal. The suggestion that matters be left as they are, for the present, and a new man be sent to Juárez, to be learning the language - helping in the School meanwhile - to be sent wherever we should think best at our next annual meeting was received with favor by some; but others were opposed, thinking that we do not really need the extra man, that he would not be in a position to best learn the language and the people, and, further, that once getting into the work there, it would be hard for him and for us to get him out.

I have tried to set before you the conflicting feelings and opinions which hindered our reaching any result, that you may consider them and decide for yourself which are the soundest and most practicable; for I suppose that the responsibility comes now on the Prudential Com. to either take some action or leave matters in statu quo The fact of Mr. Bisler's leaving and the strong probability that Mrs. Stahl will not continue together with Miss Stahl's demand for some other arrangement than the present one for the care of the boys precipitated matters, but the mission did not wish to take action.

A member of our church was burned to death, a few weeks since, by the overturning of a lamp and Mrs. Howland was severely burned on both hands in her efforts to save the poor woman. One of the burns suppurated and had to be lanced, so that she is still unable to use her right hand. We have also been much troubled about our baby, but she is now gaining. Miss White has had an attack of fever and ague but it seems to have been broken up. Typhus fever is becoming epidemic here but we hope to escape by proper precautions.

I should add, that in the dedication, the recital of the creed was very effective in our favor and the program was so much appreciated as a tract that the 1000 copies were gone within a day a two after the event. The charge to the people was perhaps novel, but seems to have been a good idea. Mrs. Howland's hymn was written hastily and under many difficulties, but was very well received.

Of course we greatly enjoyed having the brethren and sisters with us. Although our house is small we entertained the Eatons, and Crawford, Wright and Bissell besides Mrs. Chollar and Miss Danielson. The Cases and Miss Stahl went to the school, and the Baptists entertained Mr. and Mrs. Olds.

Not only did the Baptists assist us in entertaining but they gave up their services during the whole week and went with us, attending even the Lord's Supper, and being present at the baptism of children.

I suppose Mr. Case will report the annual meeting for the Herald and I will send a brief report of the dedication.

Sincerely

John Howland.

Jan. 23

Guadalajara, Feb. 24, 1893.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.

Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir;-

Yours of the 6th and 14th inst. are received. When I said that the matter of adjustment of forces in the Mission came back to the Committee, I only meant that the subject had been brought up in the Mission, discussed to a considerable length, and no definite action taken on it, after all.

I think the majority of the Mission would have preferred to have let the matter rest, as being of difficult solution at present; but Mr. Wright pressed it upon us, demanding more help for the work. Mr. Birlew is also about to leave, and his place must be supplied, and Miss Stahl came especially to manifest her dissatisfaction with the present arrangement, and her unwillingness to remain responsible for the proper care ~~to~~ of rooms and behavior in the building.

You ask for a frank expression of my feelings;- I will say, then, in the first place, that I do not wish to have a regard for my feelings to come into the consideration of this matter. What I have been permitted to do, I have done for the Lord, and am not in the least disposed to make it a ground on which to base any claims. As to the wisdom of our removal, our long residence and the quite general esteem of those who know us, give us a great advantage, but I have no doubt that it is also true that we have gotten the work into ruts, from which only a new man could remove it. I see no reason why any good man with a reasonably good mastery of the language, could not take up the work here and give it a new impulse, rather than have it suffer any loss, especially as the thought of the Mission seems to be to transfer the paper with me. I have always had a strong preferance for teaching rather than pastoral and evangelistic work, and have believed myself better fitted for it; but I well know that we often mistake in our judgment of ourselves, and I enjoy our work here and have no desire to seek a change unless the Lord himself make it plainly my duty.

As regards Mr. Wright, there is some dissatisfaction, especially as regards matters of discipline, etc., but I do not think it is at all great or wide-spread. In my conception, most of the trouble has arisen from his feeling burdened, and demanding more help, though he has an assistant, a superintendant of manual training, and a matron; while the Mission feel that, with the aid of an assistant appointed by the New West. and of the older pupils - who would thus secure normal training - one missionary and his wife ought to do the teaching, direct the manual training, superintend evangelistic work, and edit and publish the paper, at least until the School develop considerably beyond its present condition. In my opinion, Mr. Wright is an excellent teacher and worker in general; his greatest defect being his inability to despatch work and direct multituminous and diversified responsibilities, without letting them wear too much on him.

I think the Mission is quite unanimous in thinking that Mr. Bissell is not the man for the School, either as principal or assistant; and he seems to have begun a work that is, perhaps, more promising than that of any other member of the Mission.

If, as seems to be the case, all the Mission, Dr. Webb, and yourself think that I should be in the School, it would seem to me best to arrange the transfer as soon as may be, associating me with Mr. Wright; for, to remove Mr. Wright against his will, does not seem to me wise. I am sure that the adjustment of the work and authority would settle itself in time. This plan would involve comparatively little extra expense, Miss Stahl's salary and Mr. Birlew's being nearly equal to ours, and our salary being available here for my successor. This, to be sure, presents complications between the Societies, but I think they might be satisfactorily arranged. The supply here would, perhaps, be more difficult, but it seems to me that this also could be managed, though I confess that I have no plan that I am willing to present.

You will note, in the minutes, that the motion, as passed by the Mission, was that "with a view to the ultimate transfer of Mr. Howland to "join the teaching force of the Training School, we urge the Board to "appoint, immediately, a new man, to be located provisionally at Ciudad "Juárez." If such a man is to be appointed, I hope he may be the best that can be secured, for am sure that the Mission will do better work with a few picked men, than with a large number of mediocre ones. I learn that Mr. Boyle is already in El Paso, but do not understand whether he is appointed by the Home Missionary Society or not. Perhaps he may help Mr. Wright to get along another year.

I have nothing new to report about property for the school here. The sum you name, $3500.00, would oblige us to buy rather of a small property and not very central, but I will not give up the search. Miss White's having been associated with the Japan Mission, makes it harder to be reconciled to the more limited means with which this Mission has learned to content itself.

Our work continues to be, on the whole, more encouraging, and we hope for greater results in the future.

Sincerely
John Howland

El Paso, Tex. June 1, '93.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.

Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir;-

The following is a copy of a circular letter which I have just sent to each Station of the Mission, for their vote of approval or the reverse.

"The Board of Visitors, appointed by the Mission for the general direction of the Training School, attended the examinations and closing exercises, and, in connection with Mr. Bliss, of the New West Education Commission, and Mr. Wright, the director of the School, held a number of conferences to consider matters pertaining to the School.

Aside from various minor matters, the following recommendaton was adopted, which now comes before the Mission for its formal vote.

"In view of the present needs of the School and the number of pplications for admission, we deem it highly important that an ordain-dminister, already having command of the Spanish language, be added o the teaching force of the School. In order to accomplish this object, e recommend to the Mission of the A.B.C.F.M. in Mexico; to the A.B.C. M.; and to the New West Education Commission, the transfer of Mr. wland, from Guadalajara, to be associated with Mr. Wright in the School, o begin next September or as soon thereafter as possible."

The reasons that led to this action were, in general, as follows;-

.The Mission, as well as the Board, have expressed their wish that r. Howland be connected with the School, sooner or later.

.This, taken in connection with the immediate necessity of arranging r additions to the teaching force, seem to make the claim of the hool upon him stronger than those of the work in Guadalajara.

.The fact that there seems to be doubt about the advisability of Mr. ds' return to Cusihuiriachic, makes it possible that he be located, ovisionally, in Guadalajara.

It is well known that there is an absolute necessity for reducing pense, and the proposed plan provides for doing this without cutting all out of our work, as there will be no addition to the total rce, and Miss Stahl's and Mr. Spear's salaries are thrown out, not to tion quite a number of more or less important reductions in expense t would result in the execution of the plan.

Mr. Bliss practically pledged his Society to the approval of the n, with which he expressed himself as, personally, much pleased."

Please let me hear from you as soon as ssible on the subject - Sincerely, John Howland -

Guadalajara, Feb. 24, '93.
Rec'd March 11

Guadalajara, June 27, 1893.

Rev. N. G. Clark, BOSTON,

Dear Sir;-

I have been waiting to hear from the different members of the Mission before writing to you further about the recommendation made by the Board of Visitors of the Training School. I now have the vote of all except Miss Dunning and Miss Prescott, and both are understood to be in favor of the recommendation. Of the rest, all have voted in the affirmative except the Eatons and the Crawfords. The former give three reasons for not approving the recommendation, viz., 1. Unwillingness to have Mr. Olds removed, considering it to be too expensive if it is a temporary arrangement, and undesirable if the transfer is to be permanent, as involving the practical abandonment of the Sierra work. 2. Thinking it preferable to employ a man at $300.00, than to have me spend my time in manual training. 3. Preferring to have Mr. Wright and myself change places, the paper to remain in Guadalajara, and a male assistant to be appointed by the New West. Mr. Crawford objects to having two members taken out of the direct evangelistic work. So there is, practically, a three fourths vote in the affirmative.

Mr. Crawfords objection hardly seems valid, for it seems to me that our most urgent work is the raising up of an efficient native ministry. The Eatons would naturally give more importance than others to their first objection, owing to the fact that they have hoped to have Mr. Olds to help Mr. Eaton in Chihuahua.

It can hardly be necessary nor desirable for me to say anything in regard to my own views, for I think you understand that I favor the recommendation, as being, on the whole, the best that can be done.

Miss Haskins expects to start for the States, about the last of next month. Miss White will probably be in our family, more or less, during the summer. She is studying hard and seems to be doing well.

There is no especial news here, we are progressing, though muchm more slowly than we could wish. The other members of the Mission have left me in the lurch about the paper so that I have had most of it to prepare. This, with attending the S. S. Convention at Mexico, and my trip to El Paso have kept me pretty busy.

Sincerely,

J. Howland

P. S. I trust that we may have at least some indication of the probable action of the Committee, as soon as possible, for, as you may suppose, the Wrights and Olds, as well as ourselves, are xery anxious to know what is to be done, and if the change is to be made arrangemants will have to be pushed rapidly.

Guadalajara, July 11, 1893.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.,
Boston, Mass.,

Dear Sir:-

I have just received the last votes from the Mission, taken in accordance with our constitution, on the recommendation of the Board of Visitors to the Training School, proposing that we be transferred to El Paso, and I now report the vote to the Prudential Committee for their consideration. Every member of the Mission voted, and the result is 15 in favor of the recommendation, and 4 against it. Perhaps I ought to state that the vote of this station was cast in accordance with the judgment of each but against personal preference.

I have, as you know, refrained from writing at length about the plan, fearing it might be construed as working to get myself transferred to what some would consider to be a more desirable place. I would say, however, that the large majority of the Mission feel that the School is the most important part of our work, and that it would be wisdom to even cripple the rest of the Mission, if it were necessary, to strengthen that. The votes against the proposition were, I am sure, based on other considerations.

I am quite sure that the Mission would not approve the return of Mr. Olds to El Paso, and am very much surprised that the Eatons should have suggested it, especially as one of their principal objections to the plan approved by the Mission was that it removed Mr. O. from the Sierra region. As you say, we found it hard to remove him from there last year. He is a good man and seems to have done excellent work, but we are all agreed that he is not especially fitted for educational work.

As to the matter of the property in Chihuahua, I fully agree with the committee of the Mission that the property now owned "is ample for the residence and for double the present number of pupils", and I think that the statement is, as a member of the Mission expressed it, "safely within the truth". They have a large property there, much larger than in any other station, and it can not be difficult to isolate the residense from the school. It seems to me that your suggestion of doing nothing at present but the building of a wall completely dividing the two sections of the property, may be the best thing to do, under the circumstances, for, as I understand it, the most of the money asked for was for the accommodation of the school rather than for that of the Eatons. On the other hand, if I rightly understand the proposition of the committee, the proposed additions would lose nothing of their value if, at any time, the whole property should be given up to the school. The argument that was decisive with the Mission was that if such large properties were to be bought in Chihuahua, they must be granted in other stations also. Indeed, several stations announced that if the original proposition were carried out, they should demand large grants for their own fields, as being even more necessary. I am sure that even the Eatons would admit that the need here in Guadalajara is greater than theirs, so that to buy there and not here (as you give us to understand that we can not) would be an injustice.

We are much disappointed at the intimation that there is no hope of our being permitted to buy property here, at present. The building now occupied by the school is very unsuitable, not to say unhealthy, and we have little hope of being able to hire anything better.

The rainy season has been quite abundant thus far, and the crop prospects are excellent. Corn is very much cheaper than at this time last year, and if the crops turn out as good as they promise, there will be very much less suffering next year than there has been this. The great decline in the price of silver makes it almost impossible to have any financial relations with other countries, and the stability of the Diaz government is very seriously imperilled, so much so that a political crisis is well within the range of possibility, and many think it is inevitable. The "ill wind" that brings ruin to so many, makes the appropriations for missions in Mexico go further ~~[illegible]~~ than ever before.

Sincerely,

John Howland.

MISION CONGREGACIONAL

REDACCION
de
"EL TESTIGO."

Guadalajara, August 2, 1893.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.,

Dear Sir:-

We were a good deal surprised to receive your telegram this noon, for we had considered the matter to be definitely settled. We have no wish to complicate matters or cause delay, but we can not help expressing our regret at the action of the Com. presenting our reasons for favoring the plan proposed by the Boards of Visitors and approved by the Mission.

Even granting that my management might be more acceptable than Mr. Wright's (which is by no means certain) and that I could perhaps do more work, the gain would be slight, and am afraid that it would not be sufficient to justify the blow to Mr. Wright. On the other hand, Mr. Wright and myself together could push the School rapidly toward its goal of furnishing good workers, and could make our paper better and more efficient than ever, instead of "grinding it out" as I should have to do were I alone. Between us, we could superintend the evangelistic work, not only in El Paso and Juarez, but in the north-western part of the State of Chihuahua.

There must be two teachers in the School, and all are agreed that they ought to be males and more or less permanent, and if possible, ordained ministers. The New West can not fulfil these conditions, but is willing to be unrepresented and yet bear half the expense. Were a good man secured, he would have to be educated at the expense of years of study, and would be of little help the first year; whereas Wright and myself are fairly well fitted for the work as regards knowledge of the language and people.

I am well aware that there would be many difficulties in the situation at El Paso, but am sure they could all be arranged or would settle themselves, in time, and with no serious trouble. The matter of a residence for us would cause no trouble, for we are easily suited.

As to the work here, Mr. Olds would come hopefully and and with his reputation to make, though realizing the importance and difficulty of the work and the need of caution as well as energy. Nearly half the Mission know the field personally and thoroughly, so that we could give him intelligent and constant support and advice. Mr. Wright would come feeling hurt and disappointed, so that, under the circumstances, I should feel fully as contented to leave the work to Mr. Olds as to Mr. Wright.

As to the Sierra region, there is no one place that calls for a missionary at once, and Mr Olds is in doubt as to the best point in which to locate. Were we to go to El Paso, Ibañez would be released and could go to that region or could so aid Mr. Eaton that the latter would be more at liberty to look after the work in that section. Moreover, we should hope soon to furnish some good natives for that work.

The item of expense would seem to me to be a strong argument in favor of the plan proposed by the Visitors. As we prepared the estimates there is quite a reduction, but otherwise we do not see how it will be possible to avoid an increase over last year.

Moreover there are more difficulties in the way of carrying out the plan approved by the Committee than in the other case. I presume that you are aware that Mrs. Wright will be unable to travel for some months, owing to an expected increase in their family, a fact which complicates matters considerably. Mr. Olds could come soon and we could introduce him to people and to the work; but Mr. Wright and I would have to make a rapid change, owing to pressing work in both places. The proposal that Mr. Olds cpme here was made as a temporary arrangement, so that if it still seemed best, he could be returned to the Sierra next summer and Mr. Wright sent here. What I would recommend would be to leave the vote of the Committee as it is, but to adopt the recommendation of the Visitors as a temporary arrangement, in view of the difficulties in the way of the execution of the other plan. Then if, as I expect, Olds did well here and the plan of having Wright and myself in the School approved itself, the vote that we be changed could be reconsidered after our next annual meeting; and if things did not turn out as well as I hope, then all would be in train for the change.

In conclusion, I would repeat that we hold ourselves ready to do whatever the Board may think to be right and best. I assure you that we only seek to know and do the Lord's will, assured that only thus shall we find success and happiness. Did we consider our own personal feelings we should wish to remain here or to go to El Paso with full power to direct everything; but there seems to be little room to doubt that it is the Lord's will that we go, and my judg~~e~~ment strongly favors our going in with the Wrights instead of in their place.

We will try and push arrangements for our going, though of course it will take a couple of months at least to carry them out, and meanwhile shall anxiously await further ~~Sincerely,~~ word.

Sincerely,

John Howland

MISION CONGREGACIONAL.

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de
"EL TESTIGO."

Guadalajara, August 7, 1893.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.,

Dear Sir:-

I have known for some time that Mr. Case has been threatened with a return of his old trouble, but had hoped the matter would not take as serious a turn as it has. He has sent to the Mission a formal notification of having sent in his resignation. I have no idea that the Committee will accept it at present, but his own condition, taken in connection with that of his wife, seem to make it probable that they must take a good long rest. This, of course, introduces new complications, for Parral ought not to be left alone. I conclude, though very reluctanaly, that this makes it practically out of the question for Wright and myself to be together at El Paso, at least for the present.

Considering the whole situation, it seems to us that it would be the wisest way to send Olds to Parral and let Wright get along as best he can until next June. By that time we shall have light on several points, and perhaps on many. I can not reconcile myself to the putting out of Mr. Wright to put me in his place. I still adhere to the opinion that I have expressed to some of the brethren, when they have suggested doing this before, that if the Lord really wants me to go into the School, it can not be hard for Him to open

Guadalajara, Aug. 2, 93
Rec'd Aug. 9

the way; and until we find the way reasonably open, without the necessity of forcibly opening it, I shall be much inclined to doubt its being His will.

As I showed in my last, there are serious difficulties in the way of the Wrights' leaving, at present at least. Then too it would be no easy matter for us to leave here so soon. It could be done, and, frankly, we have been so unsettled by so many changes of plans, that it would be fully as much in accord with my own feelings to go at once rather than continue longer in uncertainty; but my judgment is the other way. As you intimate, we could do much more toward raising the debt on the churhh by remaining here than if we were at El Paso. We have never expected that the Board would do more than it has, and propose to make a determined effort to remove it as soon as possible after people return from their vacations. Then too, "inter nos" it seems more and more desirable that Mrs. Howland be here a little while longer to help in school matters, for should we go now, we can see little hope of the avoidance of serious difficulties.

Please understand that we hold ourselves in readiness to do cheerfully whatever the Board may decide to be best; and that I suggest plans, not because I am determined to have this or that thing done, but merely to help you, if possible, in your counsels.

We shall continue to get things into as good shape as possible to either go or stay, and shall await word. None of the Mexicans and only a very few of the Americans know that our removal has been thought of.

Sincerwly, John Howland.

MISION CONGREGACIONAL.

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Guadalajara, August 28, 1893.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.,
Boston, Mass,
Dear Sir:-

Yours of July 26th, Aug. 11th, and Aug.15, were duly received. I have delayed answering, waiting until I should get the letters corresponding to the telegrams received.

We are a good deal relieved by your last, and are inclined to hope that the vexed question may now find a comparatively satisfactory solution. There really seems to be a good deal of dissatisfaction with Mr. Wright, more than I had supposed, but there are absolutely no charges made by any one, as far as I can learn, so that any attempt to remove him would give rise to endless bitternes. As you know, it does not seem to me that there is any reason whatever to remove him. He is well fitted for the work in many ways, not only in my opinion but in that of almost, if not of all the Mission. The trouble has risen, largely at least, from the fact that some of the Mission are very anxious to have some one else at the head of the Institution. That matter can, I am sure, be easily settled. Mr. Wright and I could , I am very certain, so work together that it would be merly a question of name. I should much prefer that his name remain at the head; but, on the other hand, he has already said that he is very willing and even prefers to yield to what he thinks to be the wish of the Mission and have my name put at the head. So if we are both willing to have the other stand at the head, there surely can be no trouble in arranging the matter as the Board and the Mission judge to be best. In a letter just received from the Eatons, they say, of their own accord, that they would have voted the other way had there been any arrangement to have me take the responsibility.

If the Prudential Committee approves the action of the Mission merely deciding that the change can not take place until next year, there will be no need of further action on the part of the Mission.

My idea would be that arrangements be pushed for supplying this station by next May, then we could leave here so as to attend the Annual Meeting in Chihuahua, and the closing of the School at Juárez, and then have a couple of months to visit in the States, returning in ample time to get well settled before the opening of the fall term.

It will be seven years since we went north, and I am very anxious to look over several educational insttutions before taking up work at El Paso. We proposed Mr. Olds for Guadalajara as a temporary arrangement. He is so much interested in the Sierra region and seems to have been so successful there that it may be better not to bring him here, now that there is more time in which to make other arrangements. What have you in mind , in this matter?

Sincerely,

John Howland

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Guadalajara, Sept. 30, 1893.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.,

Dear Sir:-

Am in receipt of two letters from you. Providence seems to have settled the question of El Paso, for the present at least, for I do not see how this station can be supplied now that Mr. Case has gone; and until it is, it certainly would not be wise for us to leave. Mr. Wright has just completed arrangements, as I presume you know, with a gentleman by the name of Hoblitt, to help during the school year. He is very well spoken of and we hope it may prove to be "just the thing". Some of us have had a little hope that Mr. Case's determination to leave the work might be owing very largely to the state of his health, and that he might be persuaded to remain after he was relieved of the pain. I have also had the idea that he might take up work in a new point with ~~mo~~ more courage than he would feel in returning to Parral. I have not yet heard anything definite from him, but learn that he will go to Parral to see about the disposal of his goods, instead of having Mrs. Case meet him at El Paso as was the plan at first.

I think it would be very unwise to move Mr. Bissell, in fact it would, in my opinion, be wiser to move any other man in the Mission than to take him away from Fuerte.

I will not trouble you now with questions, just as you are going to the Annual Meeting, but later I will write about the prospects for a new man and for a building for our School, for we want to know the probabilities in these matters as they affect almost all of our plans.

It is an unspeakable comfort to know that the Lord will certainly be at Worcester, were it not for that thought I should be inclined to take any thing but a bright view of the present situation

Sincerely,

John Howland

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Guadalajara, Jan. 10, 1893.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.,

Dear Sir:-

Knowing Miss White to be a good correspondent and that she writes you frequently, it hardly seems necessary for me to write also. Still I suppose you wish to hear from all of us occasionally. You know already of the change in the location of the School. The change involved a good deal of expense in itself execution and a larger rent, but it seemed to be a necessity for the other house was not a healthy one, and there was danger of serious trouble if we continued there. We managed to get the rent of the these few months in under the appropriation but do not think it will be possible to do so during the coming year, not even by taking the grant that we have for work in one of the villages.

Our own house is not a desirable one, and we may be compelled to move. The children are having a great deal of fever and ague and now Mrs. Howland is shut up with what threatened to be a serious return of her trouble of six years ago.

Our work is somewhat more encouraging. The attendance at public services is increasing and we have quite a number of promising candidates for membership. The attendance at our Christmas celebration was the largest we have ever had except at the dedication of our new building. In several villages we seem to be getting hold of some good believers.

A new Mission is about to be started here by the "Seventh Day Adventists." Their force thus far consists of a missionary family a lady physician, a trained nurse, and a lady teacher."

Miss Haskins had promised to be here by the 18th of this month but later news make it very doubtful if she arrives before the last of the month. Miss White is getting along very well with the School, though she finds it rather hard work, owing to her imperfect knowledge of the language and newness to the work.

Sincerely,

J. Howland

Guadalajara, Jan. 10. 94
Rec'd Jan. 17.

MISION CONGREGACIONAL.

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Guadalajara, February 1, 1894.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.,

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 17th ult. was duly received. Mrs. Howland was confined to the house only about two weeks, and resumed her usual duties at once. She lost some flesh and strength and has to be more careful than before, but is gaining. There is very much less sickness in the city just at present and we hope to keep in good health.

I am glad to be able to report that Miss Haskins arrived last evening, in good health. We are having applications from several families of a better class than most of our people, to receive girls. In some of these cases we expect to be disappointed, but hope we may get some of them.

As to expenses incurred in moving etc., we very much need one hundred dollars ($100.00), in order to be able to come within the appropriation.

We received six new members on the occasion of the anniversary of the dedication of our church and there are quite a number of candidates to be received on future occasions. After observing the Week of Prayer in union with the other churches, our church wished to continue with another week in our own place of service, and we

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had a series of very interesting meetings, hearing new voices nearly every evening. We hope for permanent results, at least in a spirit of greater earnestness among the members.

I did not mean to imply that I feared any trouble from the Seventh Day Adventists, but only that, while I rejoice in the prospect of their being able to relieve much suffering and do much good, I wish that we could have an equally good outfit. Only one of their party of five is familiar with Spanish, so they will be much delayed in getting to work, especially as it seems probable that the physician will have to take a medical examination in Spanish before securing her license to practice!

A Sunday School Convention is to be held here, March 28th to April 1st, and as I am chairman of the permanent organization, a good deal of the work of preparing the program, securing the best speakers and good representation from the schools falls on me.

Sincerely,

John Howland

John Howland.
Apartado 13.
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO.

Guadalajara, March 1, 1894.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.,

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 10th ult. is received. The one hundred dollars for which we asked is to cover expenses for moving the school and making some necessary repairs both in the house formerly occupied by the school and in the one where it now is. We have not moved our own residence, nor do we expect to do so at present. We thank you very much and feel deeply indebted to you, not only in your official capacity but personally, for your interest in our need and your efforts in our behalf. The hundred dollars will be a great relief to us.

There will be a deficit of one hundred and fifty-six dollars (Mexican money) on the rent of the school building for this year, as we changed after the appropriations - or rather the estimates - were made out. Exchange has risen so much that I think that this can be met without increasing the total amount of American money allowed us for rent, though we shall need permission to use the excess caused by the rise in exchange. This matter can be left until the last of the year. I only call your attention to it now so as to prepare the way for a request later.

There are of course a great many things that we would like to get for the school, though, as you can easily imagine, it is a matter that gives a great opportunity for difference of opinion. I have referred the matter to Miss Haskins as you request.

As regards the El Paso school, I hope that it is clearly understood that I only wish to do what is right and best, and that I am very willing to believe that the Board and the Mission can judge better than I myself of my fitness for this or that work and of what it is best to do under any given circumstances. This being so, my own opinion or preferences, even if I had any that were decided, could be left out of the account. And really, I am much undecided in my own mind as to what might be the wisest course. Meanwhile Providence seems to indicate quite clearly that nothing should be done at present in the line of changes. Our work here does not prosper as I could wish, but on the other hand I do not think it is in vain, and it would be harder for us to leave here than I had supposed. A school like the one in El Paso is sure to be the source of much difference of opinion and dissatisfaction for many years, under whatever management it may be.

Sincerely,

John Howland

John Howland.
Apartado 13.
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO.

Guadalajara, March 5, 1894.

Rev. N. G. Clakk, D. D.,

Dear Sir:-

I wrote you on the 1st inst, but as yours of the 23rd ult. has just arrived I hasten to reply.

We are indeed interested and pleased to know of the probability that Dr. Daniels will attend our annual meeting. Mr. Eaton had spoken of it as possible, but am glad to know that it is definitely arranged. I would like to urge that he take a few more days and visit us here. He could thus see something of Mexico and could understand our situation as he never could in any other way. Questions will ever be arising in regard to the Mexican mission and if he could look over the field now as he is entering his work it would be of inestimable value to him in the future.

In my last, I called your attention to the fact that the matter of our school is one which necessarily affords opportunity for great difference of opinion. I wish to remind you also that a conscientious person may give widely different representations of the same thing under the pressure of different motives or circumstances. A man who is trying to escape from an unwelcome collector is apt to give a very different idea of his financial situation from that which he would give if he were negotiating a loan! If any one has been posing as a martyr in this school it has been merely "to point a plea" or, possibly, from an innate liking for that role. In any case, it is "more histrionic than historic!" To prove this, it is only necessary to call attention to the fact that, for a number of years, we have had a definite amount to spend for the school, without conditions, limitations, or even specifications. Had there been any feeling, on the part of the head of the school or of the mission, that a better outfit was needed in some or all of the departments, it would have been very easy to reduce the number of pupils or, at least, cease to receive new ones and apply the money to improvements rather than to paying the board of a large number of girls.

The lady, or ladies, at the head of the school have always had pretty nearly "full swing", and while it is true that, in some points Mrs. Howland and myself would have liked to have had some changes, we have, in the main, approved of the management of the school, and the things of which we did not wholly approve we have not considered to be of sufficient importance to bring especial pressure to bear in order to change them. Personally, I am sure that those who have seen and known our school have been more inclined to criticize it for giving the girls better accommodations than they were accustomed to have, rather than for not doing as much as we should. For my own part, I am confident that the few applications that we have recently had from families of better social standing are Providential and independent of any improvements that may have been made or planned.

On the other hand, now that the Lord seems to be leading the school into "a larger place", we are all agreed in desiring to make some corresponding changes. Many of these have already been made, but we would like something like at least $50.00 (Am. money), for the table outfit, so as not to be obliged to discharge pupils in order to get the necessary funds.

In the matter of the school we have pursued the same policy as in church matters. I opposed building during our first years here and we moved here and there, holding our service in dingy rooms with homely furniture, until the church became larger, stronger, and more intelligent. Then, when the Lord opened the way, we pushed matters, and now the work is pretty generally admitt[illegible] to be in a fairly good condition. The opposite policy of erecting a nice building first has been put in practice in other places with the most discouraging results. So also as regards schools, the M. E. South put a large and expensive force and equipment for a school in Chihuahua and have very little indeed to show for the outlay.

We should be very glad if we could buy and build for our school, and on many accounts this is just the time to do it. The school itself is on a good footing; exchange will hardly go much if any higher (it being now more than double) and it may drop heavily; and Guadalajara, after a season of depression, is coming up and property is, I am sure, bound to rise more or less rapidly during the next few years. But the financial condition of the country and of the Board is such that I suppose that it is out of the question.

We are much relieved to know of your plans for our relief in regard to the debt on our chapel. The financial straits almost nullified our efforts to raise it. I have been able to manage so that we havw paid interest only on $500.00 (Mexican), and for some months past I have paid none at all as a friend let me have the money, but I expect to make a loan this week as he needs his money. Am sorry not to be able to statw the exact amount at this writing, but hope to do so soon. It is,at the present rate of exchange, less than the amount you mention.

Sincerely,

John Howland

John Howland.
Apartado 13.
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO.

Guadalajara, March 31, '94

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.,

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 12th inst. reached me before Mr. Barton's, and now I have yours of the 20th. We are sorry to hear of the failure of your plans for our relief in the matter of the debt, but are deeply grateful to you for your efforts.

I think that this Mission will be glad to know of the proposal that our appropriations be made in American currency, though it is my own opinion that the present arrangement is the better one for all parties concerned. Living in one country while anchored to another, obliges to have to do with two currencies whatever be the arrangement. However, I suppose the fact that all other Societies use only American money in making estimates is a proof that it is the best way. I do not, however, think that the Mission will ask for an increase equal to the rise in silver. Here, at least, although there is a steady rise in the price of goods, I do not think it will go as high as silver has gone.

This rise in exchange has decreased our debt, so that $500.00 American money would just about make us "square" on that matter.

It is seven years since we have been away from here and Mrs. Howland feels that it is very desirable that she and the children at least have a change for a few months. We have asked leave from the Mission for her to go to the States directly after the annual meeting, about June 1st, to be gone six months, the understand-

Guadalajara Mar. 5/1894

John Howland.
Apartado 13.
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO.

ing being that I go in September for a trip of three months. This plan has received the formal approval of the Mission, so if you have no objection to it, we shall make our arrangements accordingly. I can arrange for the work to be carried on here by natives while I am absent. Please let us know you feeling on the matter as soon as convenient, that we may know how to plan.

I hope Dr. Daniels will take the time necessary to examine the Training School at El Paso, as that is the most important part of our work as well as the most perplexing. We seem likely to have some knotty problems before us in this connection at our coming meeting, especially in regard to the scope of the School,- whether it be exclusively for candidates for the ministry or for selected youth without such a condition.

The $200.00 for the school here, together with a few gifts from personal friends of the two teachers will put us in very fair shape, for which we are duely grateful to you.

Mr. Wright comes here in a little more than a week to attend ~~M~~ the National Sunday School Comvention, which we hope will be an inspiring and profitable meeting.

Sincerely,

John Howland

Guadalajara, Mch. 31/1894

John Howland.
Apartado 13.
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO.

Guadalajara, Mex. April 24, 1894,

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.,

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 10th inst. comes to us as a surprise, but, as you can easily imagine, it brings us inexpressible pleasure and relief. The debt on our chapel is $1077.97 Mexican money, so that the grant of $500.00, which I suppose to be in American money, will leave less than $100.00, Mexican currency; and am very confident that we can raise that amount here, and thus remove every cent of the indebtedness. We assure you that we feel deeply our personal obligation to you for your unwearied efforts in our behalf. I had expected to ask for permission to go about speaking on Mexico so as to try and raise the money in that way. Now I shall be glad to speak for the cause in general, as much as the secretaries may wish, during my stay in the States. If I could be of any service in that way, I should be most happy to do it as a proof of our gratitud, to say nothing of our devotion to the cause.

Thanks for our leave of absence. As I understand it, we do not have a regular "furlough" but only permission to leave our field for a few months, so that we do not come under tha rules of the new "Manual".

You have, of course, heard the sad news from Hermosillo. It was a great shock to us all. By some oversight we here received no word direct, and only knew of what was happening in a most round-

John Howland.
Apartado 13.
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO.

about and incidental way. Now that Mr. Crawford has been promoted we must have reinforcements. I have little idea what the brethren will recommend, but am somewhat in hopes that Mr. Case may be willing to try Hermosillo, though am much afraid that he may find it hard to get away from his present entanglements, and then too, I understand that the doctors declare that his trouble has become chronic, and hence incurable. Unless some one else is at hand, I should, I think, favor the appointment of Mr. Houlding. We did not approve of him for the Training School, but he is earnest and consecrated, and I am sure that he would work well with the brethran.

Our Sunday School Convention passed off very pleasantly and successfully, with representatives from all the denominations working in this country. I think that such gatherings are of the utmost importance, not only for helping forward the work of the S. S. itself, but even more as a means of promoting harmony and good-will between the workers.

We were very much disappointed that Mr. Williston's health was such that he could not see much of us or of the work here. He was feeling very miserable and his family were much alarmed about him, especially as there had been a death in the previous Raymond party.

We are anticipating pleasure and profit from having Dr. Daniels with us at the annual meeting.

Gratefully and sincerely,

John Howland.

Juan Howland.
Apartado 13.
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO.

Guadalajara, June 12, 1894.

Rev. C. H. Daniels, D. D.,

Dear Sir:-

I trust that you reached your home as you expected and found all well. We had gotten the business of the meeting so well along that I was able to leave on Wedenesday, arriving here Friday evening. I found that nothing unusual had occured here and am pushing my plans for going home.

I am anxious to know how the plans for our reinforcement are being carried out. It grows upon me that if Mr. Wagner is to visit some of the stations before being permanantly located, he could not do better than begin here. He could have the full use of my library and enough of our rooms to be entirely comfortable. He would be in the house with our only ordained native preacher, who knows enough English to help Mr. Wagner out at first, and who could help him in many ways. He could here have one of the best Spanish teachers in the country, and while he is studying he could be very useful in many ways. It would be quite a relief to me to know that the treasurer-ship of the station was in such reliable hands, for although I have complete confidence in Magdaleno's integrity, still it is putting a good deal on such a person to give him the handling of several thousand dollars, and I fear he might let things get tangled.

If there is any likelihood that such a plan be carried out, would, I think, be well for Mr. Wagner to come as soon as possible. Dr. Hitchcock made a mistake and got my R. R. permit good only to July31st, then the Mission granted me four months leave of absence instead of three, so I am making all my plans to leave here about the last of next month. It is very probable that I shall not be able to arrange everything so as to start then, but shall do so if I can. I shall not tell Mrs. Howland anything of this, as there ~~i~~ is so much ~~disappoint~~ uncertainty about it, and I should be sorry to disappoint her.

Even if Mr. Houlding should disappoint us and Mr. Wagner have to go to Hermosillo, it might be a good plan to give him a knowledge of this field, and the expense of sending him here would not be great.

Hoping to hear from you and to see you later,

Sincerely,

John Howland

Juan Howland.
Apartado 13.
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO.

Guadalajara, June 29, 1894.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D., Boston,

Dear Sir:-

Knowing that you would have full reports of our meeting and our work, from Dr. Daniels, and being pressed with work I have delayed writing. We are all anxious to know how matters are going in regard to our reinforcements. Ioh pe that Mr. Houlding has accepted the appointment. Perhaps Dr. Daniels has told you that I suggested that Mr. Wagner be sent here for a few months. I think there is no doubt that he would learn Spanish faster here than in any other part of the field, and he would also see this part of the country which is quite different from the northern section. Of course he could not do much mission work in my absence, but he could attend to all financial matters, and his very presence here would keep matters in much better shape than we could hope that Magdaleno alone could mantain. Then, on my return, he would be ready to do considerable work at Chihuahua or wherever it might seem best that he go. Then too, our English service, which I believe to be important, though we do not count it as any part of our regular work, will fare hard while I am gone unless there is some one to take my place. Judging by my own experience, this constant preaching while one is studying the language, is very beneficial. You will understand, I trust, that I have no "ax to grind" in this matter, now would I wish to push my plan at all; but if there is no especial reason why it should not be carried out, both my wife and myself think that it would be most desirable.

I think I can arrange for my absence so that the work will go quietly forward. The people have seen so many changes that they are quite fearful that we are not coming back. I am glad to give Magdaleno the chance to try a more responsible position. I hope it will give him a new impulse in his development.

There have been seven deaths in our congregation since Jan. 1, some of our best members having been removed. But we are receiving new members at every communion, and many things encourage us. It is, as you may imagine, a great relief to be relieved of that debt, and we shall not cease to be grateful to you for your efforts.

The Mission voted to approve my request for absence for four months instead of three. I suppose there will be no objection on the part of the committee, if I can arrange for the work here. If there is no objection, I shall try and leave here early in Aug., though I may not be able to get away, as I have carried out the instructions of the Mission and bought a press with that $200.00, which we had not used. I may have to delay a little longer than I expect, in order to set the press at work.

Sincerely, John

Rec'd July 9.

John Howland.
Apartado 13.
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO.

Guadalajara, July 14, 1894.

Rev. James L. Barton, Boston,

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 5th has only just reached me. Thanks for giving me Mr. Wagner's address. I write to him tonight. My opinion as to his location depends largely on two matters of which I am ignorant; the probability of the speedy filling of the other vacancy in the Mission, and Mr. Wagner's matrimonial prospects.

If no one else can be obtained within the next few months, I suppose that there can be but little question that Mr. Wagner would better go to Hermosillo. If another appointment is soon to be made, I suppose that the probabilities would be largely in favor of the new man's being older than Mr. Wagner and being married, two very important points for such an important and isolated position.

If Mr. Wagner is coming alone and if Mrs. Crawford is willing to remain for a few months, I should be inclined to recommend that he visit this part of the country. The Hermosillo station is entirely isolated from all other missionary work, and I should much doubt the wisdom of a young man's going there until he had spent a few months, at least, where he could see how others are working. The expense of coming here would not be great, and he could thus get a personal knowledge of all the members of our Mission and the principal workers in other denominations. Of course I am prejudiced, but I think he would have an opportunity to learn Spanish better and faster here than in any other place, and during my absen he would have some responsability, enough to give him a taste of what he will have later but not enough to burden him nor hinder hi in his study. Then in the late fall, he would be ready to take up pretty active work, in Hermosillo or elsewhere as might seem best.

However, I am only building a "castle", and can give an opinion much better when I have heard from the brother himself. I will try and arrange an interview with him. I had hoped to leave here on the 30th of this month, but it is very doubtful whether I can get away then or not.

Recd

Sincerely,

John T. Harland

Please omit the "Via El Paso & Lagos" in our addre, as i frequently the cause of delay.

GUADALAJARA NEWS.
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

GUADALAJARA, (JAL.) MEXICO, AUGUST 27, 1904.

Presentation

to Mr. and Mrs. Howland.

Railroad employees give Reception

The employees of the Mexican Central Railroad at Guadalajara, gave a reception, Tuesday evening, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Schu. in honor of Rev. John Howland, and wife, in return for their many civilities and acts of consideration to the railroad employees of this division.

In sickness and in death as pastor and wife this thoughtful, kindly, sympathetic couple have moved among the railroad employees for many years and helped them, whenever they could do so, without clamor or ostentation, and without thought of credit or reward,

Not every pair could have exercised this influence and office among railroad men, with equal tact and sincerity, as Mr. and Mrs. Howland, whose liking for people is not affected by their possessions; hence their great popularity in Guadalajara, among all classes;and so a ready response was given to the call of the commitee to meet in their honor on Tuesday night.

Among outsiders invited were:
Mr. and Mrs. Howland.
,, ,, ,, Chastain.
" " " Wright.
" " ,, Leland.
" " ,, Onderdunk.
" " " Jenkins.
,, " " Geddes.
" " " Loweree.
" " " Ortega.
" " " G. E. Purnell.
Mrs. Griggs, Mrs. Warden, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Barringer, Mrs. Duval, Mrs. Carney, the Misses Siceloff, Stewart, Wynn,Davis,Gleason, Matthews,Olds, Griggs,Warden and Dr. Davis, Will Geddes, ect.

A fine luncheon was served and a short program of vocal and instrumental music was rendered by local talent.

During the evening, Mr. and Mrs. Howland and a few others were literally surprised when a table was brought into the parlor and upon it a handsome tea and coffee set of silver with twelve spoons and two napkin rings of silver; also a dozen napkins and damask table cover. The silver articles were engraved with the name of Mr. and Mrs. Howland with date, and the words «From the employees of the M. C. R. R., Guadalajara division,

F. W. Schu on behalf of the donors asked the recipients to accept the presents as a token of their esteem: Mr. and Mrs. Howland responded with suitable words of thanks and acceptance.

The News learns that the donors were:

F. W. Schu, W. S. Knox, J. Payton.Joe Kaemmerlen, B.Chidester, J. Frank, Geo Ulrich C. T. Millspaugh, W. Townsend, A. J. Gunnell. V. Cañedo. J. Herrera T. C. Myers, J. E. Cornforth, C. E. Dockendorff, O. Filteau, Chas Jones, H. W. Dockendorff, W. R, Tucker. E. H. Eckardt, W. H. Leonard, J. E. Burns, E. S. Banks, J. A. Ocheltree, A, W. Earnest, G. Lillingston, F. M. Hamilton, L. E. Warren, H. J. Allen, D. S. More, J. E, Stewart,

——

Rev. John Howland.

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Danielsonville. Ct.
8/11/94

ev. J. L. Barton

Dear Sir and Brother:—

I arrived here this orning finding my family ll well.

I had written to Mr. Wagner elling him the date and ime of my arrival at Phila. and telegraphed im the night before. but ailed to find him, though remained five hours in e city. Whether he did not , or whether we missed

each other in the thr
or whether he failed
learn that our train
delayed – remains the

Should be sorry, to le
that the first were tw
though do not see wha
I could have done.

Please understand
I am entirely "at you
orders", for arrangin
interview with him,
indeed for what you
wish. Presume it wi
best for all parties
cerned to have him
east as soon as i

may be convenient.

Hoping to hear from you soon and to have the pleasure of meeting you ere long.

Sincerely.
John Howland.
Danielsonville.
Conn.

Danielsonville Conn.
8/17/94.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.
Boston. Mass.
Dear Sir:—

Yours of 16th is received. Thanks for reminding me of the rule of the Board in regard to travelling expenses. We will, of course, conform thereto.

I expect to be in Boston next Wednesday (Aug. 22) to meet Mr. Wagner. Probably Mrs. Howland will accompany me. I hope to arrange so that he will pass through here and thus we can have a couple of hours with him on the cars before we reach your city.

As to the sketch of the Mission to Mexico Mr. Case and myself were appointed to revise the little pamphlet, but have not executed our commission, or at least I have not done my part of it. I will write to him at once and see how matters stand with him and, between us, I think we can prepare a better sketch in a short

time. I will let you know as soon as
hear from him.

We are enjoying our vacation and
are doing a good deal of speaking he
and in this vicinity. Am getting ai
and exercise on a bicycle that a frie
has kindly loaned me.

Mrs. Howland joins me in regar
and in anticipation of seeing you nex
week.

Sincerely.

John Howland.

Danielsonville, Aug. 17, 1894
Rec'd Aug. 18

Danielsonville, Conn.
Aug. 29th, 1894.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.

Dear Sir:—

Yours of the 27th inst. was received last evening. I was surprised and pleased in regard to Mr. Case: it would seem to be most Providential. My statements in regard to the opinion of the physicians were second- (if not more!) hand, so they should have little if any weight when taken in connection with Mr. Case's own opinion. Hermosillo would present no difficulties as regards altitude, for it has none,—indeed, I have heard it stated that it is below the sea level! I am sure that every member of the Mission will say at once that it is "just the thing," and give thanks for such an acceptable solution of some of our difficulties.

I do not know just how Mr. Case would come back under the Board, but presume he will need a new outfit. If so, of course the Board must protect itself by ascertaining whether there is a reasonable expectation

Rev. John Howland
Danielsonville, Aug. 29, 1894
Rec'd Aug. 30, 1894

or not that he will remain long enough to warrant the outlay. I should wholly agree with you that a very moderate certificate would be sufficient under the circumstances.

If he is not to have the whole outfit, I should favor his being sent without going to any furth trouble or delay. His transportation from So. Cal. to Hermosillo can not be heavy and he would be sure to do enough to warrant the outlay. Am sure the Mission expect him to return whenever he thinks he can. Our trip to Boston was a most enjoyab one for us both. Mrs. Howland started, the second day afterwards, for New London to address the ladies of Dr. Blake's church, ret ing yesterday; and today she has gone to Lebanon and Windham to speak on Mex to be gone until Saturday; she is to be in Norwich a week from today for the sam purpose.

Cordially,
John Howland

Danielsonville. Conn.
Sept. 15. 1894.

Rev. C. H. Daniels. D. D.
Dear Brother:—

Yours of yesterday is at hand. We are grateful for the opportunity of going to Madison and will do what we can toward awakening an interest in the work.

I presume the time limit of our tickets will be sufficient to allow us to spend a few days in St. Paul and Chicago, with some personal friends and others that have helped us in the work.

As soon as I returned from Boston, I wrote to several parties in Mexico about property matters. Several have replied, but I have, as yet, no answer from Mr. Eaton. As soon as he writes I will notify you so that a meeting may be arranged.

I met Rev. W. L. Beard, last week, who goes to China, and was much pleased with him.

Am much interested to know how matters is as regards Mr. Case. Sincerely.

John Howland.

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12-26
12-27

Guadalajara, Dec. 19, 1894.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Boston, Mass,
Dear Sir:-

We arrived home on the fifth, in good health and spirits, and were soon settled. We found everything in most excellent condition. It is a great gratification to see that our people have both the will and the ability to keep up the work with almost no help or supervision. We were given a most enthusiastic reception, one that, while it could not but gratify and inspire us, made us feel more humble and dependent on divine help as we realize the responsibility that is laid on us by having secured such a hold on these people.

Our absence will, I am sure, be productive of good, in that our people, having made an especial effort during our absence, are awake and active, ready to help us in carrying on the work more vigorously than ever before. We find many things that encourage us. The attendance at service is larger than ever before, and there are some new listeners whose hearts seem to have been touched. There are quite a number of interesting candidates for admission to the church. Two or three students from the State college, who were attending services before I went away, although they came only occasionally during our absence, have not lost their interest and come to services and to the house for conference. Two neighborhood prayer-meetings are held each week, sustained entirely by the brethren, and about a dozen young men of the church have spontaneously formed a "missionary alliance", for the purpose of devoting themselves more assidulously and systematically to the propagation of the Gospel here in the city and in neighboring villages, all expenses that may be incurred, to be met by the society itself.

The English service, while we count it no part of our regular work, is also very encouraging. We have always been especially favored in regard to the class of Americans who have lived here, and this winter the colony has received some very valuable additions. We now have two classes in English in connection with our Mexican Sunday School, and the English service itself is much larger than ever before.

Mr. Wagner is doing hard work on the language, and is making good progress. His knowing German has given him an opportunity to get hold of the Germans residing here, and he has been called upon several times for weddings and funerals. We are getting him into work as fast as we can.

The death of Mrs. Olds was a great shock to us all, and our loss is great. It is hard to see just how it is best to arrange our forces to the best advantage.

Sincerely,

John Howland

1-1-95
1-2-95

276

Guadalajara. Mexico.
12/24/94

Rev. J. L. Barton D.D.
Boston Mass.

Dear Sir and Brother:—

Messrs Case and Eaton have sent me their approval of Mr. Wright's proposition that Mr. Wagner be sent to Parral to stay with Mr. Olds until the next annual meeting in June. This includes all the male missionaries except Mr. Bissell but he is so far away that it is thought best not to wait to hear from him. Mr. Olds is anxious to have him go at once. but Mr. Wagner feels as I do that it would be well to wait to at least notify you. and see if this would interfere with any plans the committee might have for him. The only reason for his going is to be company for Mr. Olds. and as long as he feels that he can not go back alone. it doubtless is best for Mr. W. to go. As Mr. Eaton raises no

question I suppose the matter of travell
expenses can be arranged. Wagner is
very well with his teacher here, and pr
think, sorry to go but he manifests ent
willingness and will plan to start as s
as approval comes from you.

What is the rule, or custom, in reg
to the transfer of missionaries? Is it the
prerogative of the Mission or of the pru
committee or of both together?

Sincerely
John Howland

May we have an early reply, as I presu
those most interested will be somewhat
tired of the delay.

Guadalajara Dec. 24 94

J. L. B.
4-11-95
29

Guadalajara, Mexico.
March 26. 1895

v. J. L. Barton. D.D.
Boston. Mass.

Dear Brother:—

Mr. Eaton writes that Rev. H. B. Pratt, of the So. Presb. Church would be willing to work with our Mission for a term of years. He is a man of considerable talent, and a most tireless worker. By his new translation of the Bible he has come to occupy a more conspicuous place than any one else before the Spanish-speaking world. He is said also to be an unusually effective preacher; and, of course, his very name carries with it a certain prestige.

I do not understand just what he wishes to do, nor on what footing it is proposed that he join the Mission, so am not prepared to express a very definite opinion on the subject, further than the wish that we might have the benefit, in our work, of his talent, experience and enthusiasm, provided it can be arranged financially, and that

he come into the mission in such away th
it will not produce too much frictio
nor establish unfortunate precedents.

With most cordial regards for yourself and your associates.

Sincerely.

John Howland.

Guadalajara, March 26, 1895.

5-1-95
8

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Guadalajara, April 24, 1895.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Boston, Mass.,

Dear Brother:-

I suppose you are aware that our annual meeting is to be held in El Paso, May 25th to 30th. Can't you plan to be with us at that time? I am sure that you would find it a very great help to you in dealing with the Mission in the future, if you could meet us all, see our work, and hear our discussions. May will be a delightful time to cross the U. S., and June is one of the best times to see Mexico, as the rains begin about the first of the month, laying the dust and reducing the temperature. If you could take ten or fifteen days from the first of June you could see our work here, that of other Missions in the country, and could look in on the Sunday School Convention at San Luis Potosi, June 7-10, thus meeting the best workers in the country, as they will all be there. We are hoping also, at that time, to effect a national organization of the societies of Christian Endeavor, and you could be of great service to us in that line. Indeed, it is impossible to even mention all the advantages that would result from your visit, and am sure your would find it enjoyable and restful for yourself. We consider it to be especially important that some representative of the officers of the Board be present at our meeting this year, for, as Dr. Daniels can explain to you, the new "Handbook" has introduced some questions, on which there is a very decided difference of opinion among us. We thought that the matter was definitely settled last year, but it seems sure to come up again this year, if we are by ourselves. If an officer of the Board is present, I am inclined to think that it will not be brought up at all, or, at most, in an incidental way.

I had not heard that Mr. Ward's illness was more than a passing indisposition, so we were wholly unprepared for the news of his death. As Dr. Storrs has expressed it, a great many people, including all the older missionaries, feel a sense of personal loss, even though they may not have had much to do with him directly. The effect of such a character can not be even surmised, until we get "beyond the veil."

You have, doubtless, heard of the Conference of missionaries, held in Toluca, April 3-5. It was attended by representatives of eleven denominations, only the Southern Presbyterians, who were prevented by circumstances, and the Episcopalians being absent. The Eatons decided that it was not best for them to go as they had hoped to do, and Miss White was detained by sickness, so I was the only representative of our work, except Miss Haskins, who only arrived on the last day. About seventy-five workers were present, besides some fifty visitors and natives. Papers were presented on the "Dispensation of the Holy Spirit," "Personality of the Holy Spirit," "Offices of the Holy Spirit," "the Word and the Spirit," "the Effects of the Holy Spirit," "His Indwelling," "Fruits of the Spirit," "Spirituality the Supreme Need of our Work," "the Spirit's Work as seen in the Acts of the Apostles," and "Jacob Wrestling." These papers were all carefully prepared and, several of them ~~especially~~, excited very lively and earnest discussions. Mr. Moody, who had cancelled or postponed other engagements in order to be with us, spoke to us both in the morning and afternoon of each day, with very marked effect. The morning and afternoon sessions were always begun with a prayer-meeting, which were the most earnest and impressive I have ever attended. There was a most striking unanimity in regard to the feeling that the need of the hour is an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on missionaries and natives. One could not but note that there is quite a wide-spread dissatisfaction with present methods of work and their results. The last two evening sessions were held in the largest theatre in the city and were conducted in Spanish, a large audience being present.

The mere meeting together of so many workers is, in my opinion, of incalculable importance, and when we add to this, the fact that all present seemed conscious of having received the Spirit in larger measure than ever before, it is impossible to avoid the conviction that the meeting will produce important and lasting results.

It seems, to some of us at least, that it is neither fair nor wise to send out new workers to other parts of the field, (as to Parral), until a teacher has been sent to El Fuerte. I had supposed that was the understanding, both on the part of the Mission and the secretaries.

Hoping to see you at El Paso, I remain,

Sincerely,

John Howland

"¡Por Cristo y por la Iglesia!"

Sociedad Unida de Esfuerzo Cristiano en México

MESA DIRECTIVA

Presidente, C. S. Williams, San Luis Potosí.
Vicepresidente, H. M. Sharp, Aguascalientes.
Secretaria, G.ª C. de Eaton, Chihuahua.
Tesorera, J. Wheeler, Saltillo.

ORGANO OFICIAL "El Testigo" DE GUADALAJARA

J. L. B.
Rec'd 7-29-95
Ans'd 30

Guadalajara, Mexico.
July 22, 1895

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir and Brother:—

A recent letter from you to Miss White reminds me that we as a mission have neglected the formality of accepting her resignation. She wrote directly to the Board first in order that there might be no delay in securing her successor; then, by the time we met, it was something of an old story and we (I at least) forgot that we had taken no action on the subject. It was, however, generally understood that she was going, and that another would be sent at once. We think it very important that some one come just as soon as a suitable person can be found. Miss White leaves in less than a month and school opens again the last of Sept. The new teacher ought to be here before the latter date so as to be able to consult ant arrangements. and if she could get a little notion of the language by that time it would be great advantage. To come in after school was opened, would make it much harder for the new comer. The place is a hard one, not from the amount of work, but from the peculiar circumstances. As you know, the strain comes on us missionaries, not so much from our work as from worry and friction with surroundings. Our silence in the matter has not been due to any wish to shirk responsibility, but because we at so much of a loss to decide just what is to be desired, that we concluded we would better keep silent. Were we to try and make out a list of attainments and qualities that the new worker should possess, we should, doubtless, make it more difficult to secure one, and very probably our indications would be misleading and unfortunate rather than helpful. I suppose you know that it is not necessary to be as strict in the physical examination as if the climate were more trying. There is no *tonic* in the air here, but on the other hand the climate is not enervating and is wholly enjoyable. A lady who, by nature or by grace, can "keep cool" morally, will not suffer from being in the tropics.

If we can be of any assistance in the matter, in any way, of course you will be free to question or consult us.

We are enjoying a visit from Misses Dunning, Hammond, Prescott, Wright, and Long from the State of Chihuahua.

Our work progresses slowly. Our denomination has the lead in Christian Endeavor matters in this country, though I suppose the Presbyterians will soon go ahead of us, as they have a larger work.

Is it true that some one is about to be appointed to take the place of Mr. Case? Of course we shall be much interested if such is the case.

Sincerely and cordially,

John Howland.

9-12
1395

"¡Por Cristo y por la Iglesia!"

Sociedad Unida de Esfuerzo Cristiano en Mexico

MESA DIRECTIVA

Presidente,	C. S. Williams,	San Luis Potosí.
Vicepresidente,	H. M. Sharp,	Aguascalientes.
Secretaria,	G. C. de Eaton,	Chihuahua.
Tesorera,	J. Wheeler,	Saltillo.

ORGANO OFICIAL "El Testigo" DE GUADALAJARA

G~~a~~uadalajara, Mexico, Aug. 30, 1895.

Dr. C. H. Daniels; Boston, Mass.,

Dear Sir:-

I suppose that it is incumbent on me to give official notice to the Board that Miss White left the field the 19th of this month. We heard, some time ago, through Mr. Eaton, that arrangements were nearly completed for the appointment of her successor, but have heard nothing further. We hope that what we heard was true, and that some one will soon be on her way hither. Under some circumstances the school could be carried on successfully, for a time and perhaps indefinitely, by one missionary; but under the existing conditions, we consider it very important that another lady be on the ground, if possible, before the opening of the next term, Oct. 1st.

Cordially,

John Howland

C. H. D.
Rec'd 11. 14
Ans'd 19. 95

Guadalajara Mexico

Guadalajara, Mexico, Nov. 6, 1895.

Rev. C.H. Daniels, D. D.,

Dear Sir:-

Knowing that you would be occupied with the Annual Meeting, I have not answered yours of the thirteenth of September.

Miss Haskins opened the school the first of this month, and is getting along with the help of Mexicans, but it is hard on her and, as you can understand, hard on the school to have so much come on her alone. We hope that you will be able to send some one ere long, and I suppose that the only question will be to find some one, for it is not a question of a new worker, but merely the replacing of one who has gone. We had a little hope of having Miss Long, the cousin of Mrs. Eaton, as a provisional arrangement; but when we proposed it, she had already begun work in Chihuahua, and they did not like to let her go. Miss White's sister, who visited her just before she left, is, on many accounts, very well fitted for the place, and was so much interested in Mexico, that I should not be surprised if she came back as a teacher, on her own account; but, unfortunately, she makes no profession of being a Christian, and is a member of no church. While she claims to doubt many of the fundamental doctrines, she really believes them as much or more than many whose orthodoxy is not doubted, but she has persuaded herself that she does not believe them. She teaches in the Sabbath School and is watchful for the spiritual interests of her pupils, and it is most unfortunate that she ~~she~~ thus deludes and isolates herself.

Miss Burris' going to Batopilas with Mr Case was a very sudden and quite a peculiar arrangement, and of course was wholly "irregular", as far as the Mission is concerned. I have been somewhat surprised to find, since she went, that Mr. Bissell is quite hurt because she was not sent there, whem it was found that she was at liberty. I have written him that we all had the idea that he would rather go without any one than have her, and further, that I myself doubted the expediency of her going to be with them. It is too bad that they have no teacher, for there is a fine opening there, and, as I understand the situation, there would be little expense except for the teacher's salary, the people being willing to pay the rest. I hope that they may be granted one before very long, and perhaps they can, if the mining people should pay most or all of Miss Burris' salary.

We are much taken up with promising work in the village of San Miguel and the bitter persecution that is going on there. I will write more fully about it soon.

I am having night school with ten young men and boys og the congregation, who are taking hold with considerable enthusiasm.

Mr. Wright is having a great deal of trouble on account of delay in receiving funds from the Educational Society. I do not doubt hat they are extremely "short", but the situation is a very serious ne, as the School can not be run without money, and the Board has lready advanced more than the appropriation for the year.

Sincerely, John Howland.

H. D.
1-96

Rev. John Howland 282

J. H. KELLOGG, M. D., Supt.

BATTLE CREEK

Sanitarium

A Well-equipped
and Scientific
Medical Establishment

Open all the
Year.

HOSPITAL
SANITARIUM

Battle Creek, Mich., May 27 1896

v. C. H. Daniels. D.D.
Boston. Mass.

Dear Brother:—

You will doubtless be
sprised to learn that we are in the
tates". Our little Marion (four years
ld) had chicken pox in March which
aused pneumonia and pleurisy and
is resulted in "water on the lung". She
as losing strength and flesh all the
me for two months and a council of
octors decided that there was little
pe except from a surgical operation.
ding that we could not have such an
ration performed there with any
at hope of success, we started at
ce for this place. When we arrived
were rejoiced to find that the doctors
firmed what we had begun to hope
n what we noted in her, namely

that the change in climate or alt
or both had caused most of the l
to be absorbed and that there woul
no need of an operation. She may
slow in recovering her entire heal
the full use of her lung, indeed
Kellogg is not sure that she will
have it entirely well again. but t
seems every prospect that she w
continue to gain and be fairly w
and strong soon.

Mrs. Howland will remain w
her for a time and will probably
her parents before she returns.
I start back tomorrow.

The Mexican Central R.R. no
gives especial rates to wives of
men and demanded official
proof that Mrs. Howland is a
larly appointed missionary.
I had nothing that they would
as proof, I paid full fare an
a receipt. hoping to get someth
back. If you will be so kin
would be much obliged if yo
would send to me at Guadala
something after the style of the
duly "signed and sealed"

Sincerely. J. Howland

J. L. B.
Rec'd
Ans'd 7-27-96

Guadalajara, Mexico, June 18,'96

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.
Boston Mass.,
Dear Brother:-

I owe you an apology for not writing. I was away from home attending the Annual Meeting of the Mission, and, returning, found our little one very seriously ill; then, a fortnight later, on finding that we could not have the operation that seemed imminant performed here, with any probability of success, we started at once for the States. This has caused me to become very much involved in my work and I am only just getting "in sight" of it.

At our Annual Meeting I was chosen secretary, so it is incumbent on me to write more frecuently, I suppose. I understand that the retiring secretary, Mr. Case, sent you an abstract of the minutes of our meeting. I hope to send you, very soon, the statistical reports from the stations.

We were confronted by many very difficult problems, at our meeting, and there is quite a difference of opinion and feeling among us. I have no doubt that we shall continue to work in perfect harmony, however, and that we shall get new light on some matters, ere very long. "Self support" is the theme that occupies the attention of all the missions at present, but how far to adopt new methods, and how to adjust the new to the old, gives rise to much difference of opinion.

The distinction that is made between our regular work and "woman's work" gives us a good deal of trouble. To be told that we can not touch certain items in the appropriations not only complicates matters, but puts us in a serious predicament. The Mission, or at least a large majority of it, is agreed that the educational work is decidedly the least important part of what we are doing, but that is almost all included in the socalled woman's work; so instead of being able to help out the evangelistic work at the expense of schools, as we believe ought to be done, we have to do just the reverse, and make all the reduction come on what seems to us of vital importance. Quite a number of us are convinced that in the villages, at least in a considerable part of our fields, it is of very doubtful expediency to establish or maintain schools. It creates a division among the youth of the place and deprives us of what might be one of our most effective means of propagation, that is, the intimate daily contact of our people with those of other beliefs. The educational laws of the country are good, and if we can secure their enforcement, we can educate our children free of all expense and propagate by that very means, and the Church, by means of services, home nurture, Christian Endeavor societies, etc., etc., can look after the religious training. Indeed, I very much doubt if we can hope to make even our schools in Chihuahua and Guadalajara superior, from an educational standpoint, than the government schools for girls in the two places. If that is so, and it is I think conceded by all, then it seems, to me at least, open to question whether it will be wise to continue those institutions indefinitely. For the present, now that they are established, we are agreed that they should be sustained, but some, and I think most, think that it is not wise to plan as though we expected to build up permanent and notable institutions. In Mr. Bissell's field the situation is quite different. There, the schools are managed by narrow and corrupt officials and teachers, so that he can not conscientiously urge the sending of our people's children to the public schools; therefore we all cordially indorse and urge his request for a teacher. His field certainly his the preference over all the rest. Another point about the schools is that they are, in almost every case, a most serious hinderance to the carrying out of the principle of self-support. In the villages, with few if any exceptions, it is useless to think of the people supporting such a school, even in the future. In the boarding schools there may be some hope that pupils may be obtained on a self-supporting basis, but there is much room for doubt on the subject.

I have just learned that some friends are working to secure my being appointed American consul here. I at first said that I would not think of it; but there is no doubt that it would give a certain prestige to the cause, and would often be useful in case of trouble, What would be your opinion and preference? Of course it may all come to nothing, and I do not wish anything said about it, but I wish to know the mind of the Board, in case the appointment should be made. The office has no salary and not very much work.

We have just had a very successful Christian Endeavor Convention at Zacatecas; our paper was continued as the official organ of the National Society, Mrs. Eaton was elected corresponding secretary, and myself president.

Cordially John Howland-

P. 3.

I have just learned that Miss Long, who as been helping at Chihuahua, can not arrange o remain there, and would be willing to take Miss White's place here. She is a rare christian haracter, an indefatigable worker and has a good workable knowledge of the language. If it could be arranged so that she could ome here, either by her regular appointment or by allowing the expense of her salary, or by arrangement with the Woman's Board e should be *very* glad and it would, I am sure, be an excellent thing for the School. I believe Mrs. Eaton and Miss Haskins have written to the Woman's Board about the matter.

J. H.

Guadalajara 6/24/86

Rev. C. H. Daniels, D. D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Brother:—

At Mrs. Howland's request I enclose a copy of the constitution of the "H. H. Society". I regret to say that our constitution is still like that of this country, something to work towards rather than a thing already attained. We believe, however, that the idea has been of considerable practical benefit to the little ones, and we are hoping to progress enough so that we shall not be ashamed to have our pictures taken as a society and to wear a little badge.

I believe I have not thanked you for Mrs. Howland's certificate. My application for a refund was successful and they paid back nearly sixty dollars (mex.), which was somewhat of a relief to us in our present situation.

We had a most enjoyable Christian

Endeavor Convention at Zacatecas, June 5-7,
and believe that it is the beginning of a
more decided and rapid advance in the
movement. Much enthusiasm was awa
ened and new societies are being for
quite rapidly. As usual the Congregati
alists are prominent in the movement.
Mrs. Eaton was elected corresponding sec
and myself president of the National So
and our paper "El Testigo" was designated as its off
organ.

We are all much interested to know w
can be done about a teacher for Mr. Bis
and about Miss Long's coming here. It
certainly ought to be arranged so that s
can be employed even if she is not reg
appointed, for she is most earnest and a
in her methods of working, and impresses
strength and sweetness of christian chara
on all whom she meets.

Sincerely and cordially
John Howland.

Rev. John Howland
Guadalajara Mexico.
June 28 96

Sociedad Unida
MEXICANA

PRESIDENTE
Juan Howland,
Guadalajara.

SECRETARIA
G. C. de Eaton,
Chihuahua.

TESORERA
Viviana Solis,
Saltillo.

PRIMER VICEPRESIDENTE
José L. Falcòn,
Zimapàn.

ÓRGANO OFICIAL
"EL TESTIGO"
Guadalalajara.

REDACTOR
Juan Howland.

NUESTRO LEMA:
"¡Mexico para Cristo!"

Guadalajara, Mexico, Aug. 4,

Rev. James L. Barton, D. D.,
Boston, Mass.,

Dear Sir and Brother:-

Yours of July twenty-seventh is just received and I hasten to reply. I hope that you have heard from Mr. Wright ere this, as he can speak more fully, accurately, and authoritatively about the El Paso School. We learned through him that the Education Society proposed to withdraw from the support of the School, but that they would turn over the building to the A. B. C. on condition that the School be kept up. At first thought, that seemed to all of us to mean that the School be given up; but after reflecting, I suggested to Mr. Wright that it ought to be possible to carry on the institution on the half appropriation. After some discussion, this plan was adopted by a majority vote. If the Society did not promise the use of the building free, or if they are not willing to stand by the promise, it will, I suppose, be necessary to close the School. To be frank, the Mission is not agreed as to the School. Some think that it would better be some where else and some that it is not properly managed. An institution of that kind must always, I suppose, be a cause of very decided difference of opinion, for it is a point in which are focussed the most perplexing problems, and on which depend the brightest hopes. I have maintained that, judged by its fruits, the School and its management stand above all serious criticism, and I think there has lately been more cordiality of feeling toward it. It may be my natural disinclination to give up a point that I have defended; but I am unable to see where the School could be better placed. Some object to the expense;

but it was taken onto American soil just to save expense, and, although it is true that this was done when the two currencies were nearly at par, I have been unable to get any demonstration that the supplies are more expensive there than in the interior of this country. If we take into account our work on the west coast, El Paso is the central point of our Mission. I have not ceased to believe also that we do good there by giving an impulse and furnishing workers for the work among Mexicans in the U. S. Still, if we should have to pay any such rent as has been demanded, I should strongly favor moving. I can not see the charging of rent for the building as any thing else than a most flagrant abuse of funds; but, of course, the Educational Society has the legal right to do as it chooses. I very much hope that they will waive their claim for a year, at least, and let us see what we can do. If they will not, I think there is no doubt but that the School will be closed, for a year at least, as we can hardly confer, scattered as we are, and decide on so important a matter before next annual meeting. It would be a pity to have the young men scattered, as some of the best would be lost to us.

We are very glad to know that we are to have Miss Long. How about Miss Olds, has she been appointed? I certainly hope so, for I should be sorry to have the vacancy here filled before Mr. Bissell's claim is granted.

The Batopilas question is a very difficult one, and one on which we think differently. Messrs. Case and Eaton were in favor of filling the call at any sacrfice, but the rest of us deemed it necessary to proceed with some caution. The place is an isolated mining town, with a precarious existence, practically no surroundpopulation, and the whole situation turns largely on a very few Americans of the type of "Boss" Shephard, and a few "liberal" Mexicans. These men are rich and are lavish with their promises, but it is easy to see that what they want is American instructors and that they merely accept the Gospel as a necessary condition of getting the desired educational facilities at a low figure. Their removal or loss of interest would "knock the bottom out" of everything. With our reduced force, every man is a necessity where he is, so it could not be wise to put one of us in such a place. This view would seem to be corroborated by the fact that, when first told that we proposed to send them a new man, they at once demurred and declared that they would not fulfill their pledges unless one of us were sent, though I understand that they have since thought better of it. As Mr. Bissell, who has visited the place, says, with a good deal of wit and justice:-"They want the earth, and care little for the kingdom of heaven and its righteousness." But we by no means favor rejecting the offer, or neglecting the place. We have put our best native worker there, and are hoping that some American may be found who will go. We hesitated also about sending one of our number there, not knowing what to count on for the future. The offer of the freind was, as we understood it, for one year only; if it were not renewed, could we count on the Board to meet the situation? We seem likely to get into difficulty about the matter of lady teachers for the place. Miss Burris is, apparently, doing excellent work, but I understand that she will not (can not, it is said) remain unless she has a companion. But it will not be easy to do so. Mr. Wright favored Miss Long's going there, with the idea that she could support herself. I hope to hear from him soon, as he must have returned from there by this time. He wrote from the place quite enthusiastically about the work and the opening, but briefly, promising to write more fully later.

If the School at El Paso is to be given up or suspended, we shall have a "spare" man, and perhaps we can fill the place, though I have doubts about either Mr. or Mrs. Wright being able to endure the climate of Batopilas, which lies in a naked ravine, the thermometer standing at 102 at midnight recently!

If you have not yet heard from Mr. Wright about the Training School, will you please find what hope there is from the Education-Society, and communicate with some of us as soon as possible. I am of the impression that I myself saw the letter in which they offered to let us have the use of the building; certainly our action was based on that understanding.

I will comply with your request to write more fully about my views on the educational problem, within a short time.

As a missionary of the M. E. Church South recently said:-"The problems of missionary work in Mexico can be reduced to one, - self-support." Our study of this question has, for some of us, come to affect our views on all departments of the work, and we are seeking to put the work on a different basis.

Yes, our little one is much better, but the doctors are very urgent that she remain in the States until cold weather, so I do not expect them until October or November. They are at Mrs. H's old home in Danielson, Conn.

Cordially and sincerely, John Howland

P. S. I have heard no more about the matter of being appointed consul, so I presume that it has been dropped. The duties would not be at all arduous.

Sociedad Unida
CE
MEXICANA

PRESIDENTE
Juan Howland,
Guadalajara.

SECRETARIA
G. C. de Eaton,
Chihuahua.

TESORERA
Viviana Solis,
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PRIMER VICEPRESIDENTE
José L. Falcòn,
Zimapàn.

ÓRGANO OFICIAL
"EL TESTIGO"
Guadalalajara.

REDACTOR
Juan Howland.

NUESTRO LEMA:
"¡Mexico para Cristo!"

Ansd. 10-21-96

Guadalajara 10/2/96

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Boston, Mass.,
Dear Sir:-

I was quite startled to receive a letter from Mr. Eaton, just now, in which he says that you express regret at not receiving the report of the Mission. I was positive that they had been duly sent, but, to my great confusion, on looking I found them all! I send them forward under another cover, although they will arrive too late for their principal use. I have no excuse to offer, though I can say that it could not have happened except for the practical breaking up of our home immediately after the Annual Meeting. Since then, owing to my unexpected absence and lack of the aid and counsel of my "better half," my situation has been anything but settled. I regret very much that no hint came to me until it was too late, though that does not palliate my fault.

We are very much disappointed at the news that Mr. Case's salary can not be allowed but trust that the committee will allow us the grant of the eight hundred dollars. Our mission has always been economical and almost invariably turns back quite a balance into the Board's treasury. We would say nothing now were it n for the fact that we have had a cut of a very heavy amount by the defection of the Education Society. All of which entitles us to consideratio Indeed, I do not know what we can do without th grant; and the worst of all is that, I am afrai the failure to secure it would involve us in internal dissensions. Such an extreme cut, com from two sides at once is so painful, that I distrust our ability to arrange it, for there ar wide differences of opinion in regard to what we could do. We have already asked the lad to cede ten per-cent of their salaries and ar doing everything we can think of, except entire stopping important branches of the work or some one retiring.

I write in haste now, but intend to wri again soon.

Sincerely,

John Howland.

Rev. John Howland
Guadalajara, Oct. 2, 189
Rec'd Oct. 10
5+

L. B. 10/96
23

Sociedad Unida
MEXICANA

PRESIDENTE
JUAN HOWLAND,
Guadalajara.

SECRETARIA
G. C. de EATON,
Chihuahua.

TESORERA
VIVIANA SOLIS,
Saltillo.

PRIMER VICEPRESIDENTE
JOSÉ L. FALCÒN,
Zimapàn.

ÓRGANO OFICIAL
"EL TESTIGO"
Guadalalajara.

REDACTOR
JUAN HOWLAND.

NUESTRO LEMA:
"¡Mexico para Cristo!"

Guadalajara 11/3/96

Rev. J. L. Barton D. D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Brother:—

We were all very much relieved to learn of the granting us of the eight hundred dollars, the equivalence of Mr. Case's salary. The especial urgency was a rather peculiar complication that had arisen about the Training School. To be frank, I think Mr. Eaton is not, personally, in sympathy with Mr. Wright; at any rate, there has been a lack of agreement as to methods. When the cut came, Mr. Eaton was anxious to have the School suspended so as to save the rest of the work, and when it was voted to ask Mr. Wright to carry it on with the half appropriation, Mr. Eaton was strongly opposed and had the names put on record as we voted. Of course, that action made it very hard to arrange the appropriation, and it was all the more difficult on account of the pressing calls from Hermosillo and Batopilas, but we succeeded in making an apportionment that promised to be satisfactory to all, but based on the supposition that we could use Mr. Case's salary. For various reasons there was, as you know, delay about the decision in regard to the grant. As the time drew near for opening the School Mr. Wright. on his own responsibility, postponed it from September to October. He then wrote to me as one of the School Visitors (Mr. Eaton being the other) to know what he should do. I replied that the Mission voted to instruct him to continue the School if he could do it on the half appropriation, putting no other conditions, therefore in my opinion, it was his duty to go ahead w no reference to the question of the especial grant. If we failed in getting that we should have to do the best we could in cutting off other work and work but I was not in favor of cutting the School any further, much less of suspending it. He went f and opened. His action greatly surprised and offen Mr. Eaton, and when he quoted me as having au ized him to do so. Mr. Eaton took me rather ser to task for giving him advise individually, without consulting the other member of the Board of Visitors. It was a new idea to me that possibly the two Visitors should act *only* as a *Board*. I had looked at the matter as though we were Mr. Wrigh advisers, and that he could consult us together or individually, and then act. I explained my position to Mr. Eaton and did what I could to procure a reconciliation. I seem to have succeeded so far as any personal feeling may be concerned; but had the grant been finally refused. I do not see how it would have been possible to have arranged matters, with the feeling as divergent and as strong as it was. Mr. and Mrs. Eaton felt that it would be better to suspend the School and not cut the rest of the work, while the rest of the Mission (or nearly all the men at least) were of the opinion that it was fairer and wiser to cut other departments as much or even more.

Personally, I am coming more and more to the opinion that the only hope of self support is to keep down expenses at the start, and to be content with simpler methods. In most of the small places, if we rent a house and place a preacher there at thirty dollars a month, which is as low as we can pay and get good men, we set the whole work at a pace that the natives can never attain, at least until economic conditions are very materially changed, and that is a matter of one generation at least, and probably more. A self supporting school is even more hopeless. In my opinion it is far better, in the end, to have the places visited by the missionaries and competent natives, have the believers taught to assemble in some of their own houses and hold services, such as Sunday School, Christian Endeavor and similar meetings, that are not dependent on a preacher, and thus lead them forward, in the hope that they may become sufficiently numerous and thrifty to be able to support a pastor, build a church and do all that we like to see done, but taking th initiative themselves in every forward step and bearing much the larger part of the financial burden from the very start. This method will not resu for a long time, in such "orderly" and attractive congregations and growth will be slower, but I a convinced that it will be surer, and better in end. As regards schools; we have a good schoo system, and in many places complaints o abuses and petitions will secure a very tolerab if not a very satisfactory school where the child of the native Christians can be educated free o expense. I am convinced that mission schools while they do most excellent work — much better than will usually be secured in the governme institutions — have two serious objections. In the first place, they build up "a wall of partition" in every place where they exist, between evangeli and romanists. the rising generation is thus taug (practically at least) to hold itself aloof from tho who hold other opinions. A tendency induced thus early becomes so strong that it is almost impossib to overcome it later. In the second place, and intimately connected with this, mission schools *practically* are not much of a means of propagation. It is *very* rare that children are reached in that way, who were not already accessible in other ways. And while they do little propagating, they deprive us of what I believe ought to be one of our best opportunities — the constant mingling of evangelical children with those who are not. When we can get a Romanist to examine the truth, or even when we disarm his prejudices we have, often at least, won much more than half the battle. We can always prevent Romanism being taught, and can usually secure fairly good moral influence, and I believe that the home and the church — with its many sided efforts — ought to do the rest and give the child all it needs.

I send you, under another cover, a circular letter inviting representatives to an "General Assembly" to be held in Mexico the last of January. I wish to urge, as strongly as I can, that our Board send some official representation, and I take the liberty of urging you, personally, to embrace the opportunity to come and see us, our work, and that of all the societies in Mexico. It would give you a restful and enjoyable escape from the worst of the home winter and would put you in a position to understand matters here as you never could in any other way. I hope you will give me encouragement to signify your intention to be present.

We are enjoying Miss King's presence and help. She is, in many respects, a rare worker, and I hope she may soon be officially one of our number.

I suppose Mrs. Howland is on her way here. We look for next Tuesday.

The work moves on much as usual, with many things to encourage and much that disappoints and disturbs. Rome is organizing and working here as never before.

Sincerely and cordially.
John Howland

$5 Perhaps
Special Gifts

Boston, March 8th, 1897.

"VOTED, That the American Board be allowed the use of the
ool buildings and premises belonging to the Society at El Paso
the same terms as last year, provided it be understood that the
iety reserves the right to sell said property at any time during
year when an offer satisfactory to the Directors is made for
same, and that the expense of insurance and needed repairs be
ne by the American Board."

We are enjoying Miss King's presence and help. [illegible] in many respects a rare worker, and [illegible] of our number.

I suppose Mrs. Howland is on her way here. We look for her next Monday.

The work moves on much as usual, [illegible] disappear and [illegible] here is [illegible] and working here as never before.

Sincerely and cordially,
John Howland

$5 Publish
paragraph

L. B.

Sociedad Unida
MEXICANA

PRESIDENTE
Juan Howland,
Guadalajara.

SECRETARIA
G. C. de Eaton,
Chihuahua.

TESORERA
Viviana Solis,
Saltillo.

PRIMER VICEPRESIDENTE
José L. Falcòn,
Zimapàn.

ÓRGANO OFICIAL
"EL TESTIGO"
Guadalalajara.

REDACTOR
Juan Howland.

NUESTRO LEMA:
"¡Mexico para Cristo!"

Guadalajara 3/5/97

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Boston, Mass.,

Dear Sir:—

The time for making our annual reports is close at hand and we have, as far as I know, no blanks for making them out. As the time is so short, it will be a favor if you will send at once directly to each station; as otherwise it will be impossible to distribute them so that they may be filled out before our annual meeting.

We have just had a visit from a Mexican evangelist, holding special services for nearly two weeks, about thirty professed conversion. Hope to send you more details soon—

Sincerely
John Howland.

Sociedad Unida
CE
MEXICANA

PRESIDENTE
JUAN HOWLAND,
Guadalajara.

SECRETARIA
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"¡Mexico para Cristo!"

REDACTOR
JUAN HOWLAND.

Guadalajara 3/28/97

C. N. Chapin,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Chapin:—

Yours of the sixteenth, with enclosed blanks, has just come. The day before, I received a blank from Mr. Wright, the chairman of the Mission, so I suspect that the package of which you speak was sent to him. I have received none except these three that I have just mentioned. My address is correctly given in the Almanac, and we lose very little mail, as we have been here so long that we are very well known. I go to the Annual Meeting of the Mission next week, and will then find out how the matter stands. Thanking you for your promptness, I remain, as ever,

Yours truly,
John Howland.

P. S. Postage to Mexico is the same as to any part of the United States, and not five cents as formerly.

Guadalajara, March 8, 1897.

Sociedad Unida
MEXICANA

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Guadalajara.

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Guadalalajara.

REDACTOR
JUAN HOWLAND.

NUESTRO LEMA:
"¡Mexico para Gristo!"

El Paso. Tex. 4/8/97

Guadalajara, March 23, 1897.

Rev. C. H. Daniels, D.D.,
Boston, Mass.,

Dear Brother:—

Yours of the nineteenth did not reach me until the evening before my departure for our Annual Meeting. I wrote the enclosed at Chihuahua the third day afterwards, but have not been able to send it until now. It is not easy to write a personal letter and yet not know to whom. Shall be glad of suggestions if you wish me to continue. I certainly shall be glad to cooperate in any way in which I may.

We had a pleasant and, apparently, successful meeting in Hermosillo. The lagging finances of the Board are a constant source of sorrow but, practically, the matter has not troubled us as it must have done to most other fields, for we had already entered upon a somewhat different policy, seeking to simplify the work and cut down outlay by the Mission; insisting on the natives taking the initiative and allowing us to help them, rather than have them pretend to help us in doing their work. Most, if not all, of us are convinced that Mission work has been hampered rather

than helped by expensive and complicat
establishments and machinery, and that
nearer approach to Apostolic methods wil
give, eventually, greater and more enduri
results.

Our little Marion, who was so ill la
year, seems to be recovering; though restorati
the lung can only come after years of ca
She accompanies me on this trip of near
four thousand miles and seems to have
been decidedly benefitted by the chan

We are most happy to have Miss Long de
finitely appointed to the Mission, and only re
that she should not have more congenial su
rroundings - Miss Haskin's peculiarities mak
her rather of a trying associate. She is exe
a most helpful influence over the schoo

With cordial regards to yourself, your f
ly and your associates,

Sincerely and cordially,

John Howland.

Sociedad Unida
MEXICANA

PRESIDENTE
Juan Howland,
Guadalajara.

SECRETARIA
G. C. de Eaton,
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TESORERA
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Zimapàn.

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"EL TESTIGO"
Guadalalajara.

REDACTOR
Juan Howland.

NUESTRO LEMA:

"¡Mexico para Cristo!"

Chihuahua, Mex. 3/29/97

y dear fellow-endeavorers:-

Just as I was starting on a journey of about two thousand miles, to Hermosillo, to attend the Annual Meeting of our Mission, came a request ~~from Dr. Daniels~~ for a letter to Christian Endeavorers. At this, the first break in the journey, where I stopped to spend Sunday, I gladly take a little time to reply. A fitting place, urely, for here is the oldest Christian Endeavor Society in Mexico, formed in 1889 by Mrs. Eaton, "the apostle f C. E. in Mexico," the editor of the Society's department in our paper, and the secretary of our National ociety ever since its formation. The principal motive for my stopping here was to aid her in the completion f the program for our National Convention, to be held in Saltillo, July 2-4. By the way, permit me, as resident of the National Union, to extend to you all a most hearty invitation to attend that Convention. It comes ust before the great Convention in San Francisco, so that hose of you who are planning to attend the latter, can, ~~with~~ nly a little additional expenditure of time and money, ake a "side trip" to ours. We promise you a warm reeption, - not the kind that so affected Dr. Clark last year s he crossed the burning plains, for this time the meeting is earer the frontier and in a cooler region, - but we ill give you a cordial Mexican embrace, ~~and~~ a

glimpse of Mexican enthusiasm "for Christ and
the Church," and an acquaintance of some who w
doubtless become leaders in this movement and i
evangelization of this whole land. Representatives wil
there from almost all parts of the Republic and y
can have little conception of the effort and sacrifi
their attendance will demand. There are now abo
hundred societies in the country of which someth
like thirty are Juniors. Some of us are convinced th
Christian Endeavor has great possibilities here
we pray and work to ensure their realization. We a
doing what we can to secure the formation of societie
where there is no church, believing that we can thus do m
toward finding a solution of the vexed questions of sel
support, of religious education, of cheap and effective propagation, an
fraternity. Mexico won the banner, last yea
for the greatest gain in Junior societies and we n
despair of getting it back again in the coming co
tion.

I wish you could have been with me at the Ju
meeting yesterday. It was led by a ten year old Mex
lad named Nehemías, who conducted it with a dec
and tact that would put many an older Endeavore
shame.

I should be most happy could you take a little
side trip and see my especial field, Guadalajara
"Pearl of the West," the "Athens of Mexico" as our fello
citizens delight to call it. I say "fellow-citiz

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REDACTOR
JUAN HOWLAND.

NUESTRO LEMA:
"¡Mexico para Cristo!"

for a residence of fifteen years has brought us into a close sympathy with the place and the people. We have a pretty and commodious building, erected five years ago, after nearly two years litigation, fighting against clerical influence. It is built on the site of the offices of the inquisition and is directly in front of the most fashionable Romish church in the city. Our church numbers about a hundred members, all of whom are Mexicans, with an average attendance nearly as large as the membership. There is an active Christian Endeavor society of about forty members and a Junior society of nearly half that number. Our twelve-page, semi-monthly paper, "El Testigo" (The Witness), now in its eleventh year, was adopted, two years since, as the official organ of the National Society. It is printed entirely by a young Endeavorer, who began with the paper as a little boy. All the work is done on a press ten by eighteen inches; two pages being printed at a time.

During the last of February we had a visit from a (it would be more exact to say the) Mexican evangelist, and we are hoping to receive about twenty at the next communion, on Easter day; nearly as many more remaining as candidates, to be received, we hope, at a later date. Nearly all of these had already been brought very near the Kingdom,

but had never taken the final step. This wa
Arcadio Morales, is a most spiritual man, w
at whose feet we missionaries delight to sit. H
presence at Saltillo, directing the sunrise praye
meetings will be one of the features of the Conven
Brethren, pray for us, that our labors in thi
beauteous but blighted land may be blessed
the salvation of a multitude of souls and to
raising up of an army of true Endeavors wh
shall conquer this nation for Christ.

Very cordially and sincerely

John Howland

El Paso, Texas
April 8, 1897

J. L. B.
Rec'd 7-19-97
Ans'd 8-18-

Guadalajara. 7/12/97

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Boston, Mass.,

Dear Brother:—

You may have noticed, in the report of our Annual Meeting sent you by the secretary, that we voted to "approve of the efforts to "secure a revision of the Pratt Version of the Bible as "recommended by the Second General Assembly of Evangelical Workers in Mexico, and request our Board "to appoint a representative of its own on the Committee of Revision in addition to our present working "force." Possibly I am mistaken, but my remembrance is that the motion as carried was not worded just as reported, but requested the Board to make the appointment and at the same time secure us against a crippling of our present force by this work which should take a considerable part of one man's time. Mr. Eaton, who made the motion and whom you will see in these days, can corroborate or correct my impression.

At the time of our meeting none of the other Missions had made any appointment, but since quite a number have done so and there really seems to be a prospect that they may soon get to work as they are authorized to do so as soon as one half of the Missions shall have appointed representatives. I had not thought anythi definite would be done, but now that there seems to be some hope, I would urge the matter upo your attention. Our Mission holds a place of respect among the other workers and I am sure that it is most important that we enter heartily and with as much force as possible in this most important work. Mr. Wright, our secret has what seems to me an exaggerated and unfoun fear that the appointing of one of the present force would seriously cripple us. It would not in my opinion, necessarily do so at first and perhaps not at all. The scheme proposed is that each member of the committee spend at least two hours per day in the work for two years, and then tha a year be given up to working it over togethe For the first two years the work could be do without making any changes in our present force, and, meanwhile, provision could be mad for the third year. If I mistake not, Mr. Wrig thought was that the Board would better appoint so one who is not in the work but I do not think this would be the judgment of the rest of the Mission. It certainly would be extremely difficult for you to find a man, acquainted with Hebrew and Greek and with such a practical knowled of Spanish as to be able to do good work, even if you could face the other difficulties that would come up in the consideration of such an appointment: for it is not probable that a suitable man would accept an appointment for three years only, unless it were at a price that would make it out of the question, and to start a new missionary on such work would probably spoil him for efficient service later. The problem of finding the right kind of a man is a difficult one and the Missions are meeting it in different ways. The M. E. North has appointed a Mexican, a bright fellow but one who who I am sure knows practically, or absolutely, nothing of Hebrew and Greek - their thought evidently being that Dr. Pratt will have secured fidelity to the original and the perfection of the Spanish is now the main point. The Adventists have gone to the other extreme, having appointed a man who knows nothing of Spanish except what he has been able to learn since his appointment. One other Mexican has been appointed, who, I think, has some knowledge of the original tongues, and the rest are Americans. It would seem to me to be foolish if not positively sinful to entrust such work on the Word of God to one who could make no use of the original sources, so I should urge the appointment of one of our present number: for though none of us has *mastered* Spanish, we all have a good knowledge of it and could avail ourselves of the aid and counsel of intelligent and educated Mexicans. The work could be taken up and probably carried on by any of us for the two years without much, if any, additional expenditure; though I think it would be wise to allow the person appointed a small appropriation to enable him to secure help in his routine work and to pay his Mexican "corrector." I would urge the matter upon the attention of the committee for there seems to be a probability that the revision committee may organize soon and it would be unfortunate to have our Mission unrepresented, instead of coming into line at once and actively.

We have just had a splendid National Christian Endeavor Convention. The number of societie and that of delegates has doubled in a year and the enthusiasm is great. Our paper was again cho as the official organ, and I was reelected presiden of the organization. We hope, during the year, to perfe the Federation of all Young People's Societies among Mexicans and have a rousing Convention. Best of all, the movement is marked by deep spirituality and high ideals of consecration.

Cordially,

John Howland

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Sociedad Unida
EU
MEXICANA

PRESIDENTE
JUAN HOWLAND,
Guadalajara.

SECRETARIO
EUCARIO M. SEIN,
Matehuala.

VICEPRESIDENTES
G. D. POWELL,
T. DEL VALLE,
E. M. WESTRUP.

TESORERA
Sra. de WILLIAMS,
San Luis Potosí.

ORGANO OFICIAL, "EL TESTIGO", Guadalajara.

NUESTRO LEMA:
"¡México para Cristo!"

SUPERINTENDENTES DE DEPARTAMENTOS

SOCIEDADES INFANTILES
SUSANA E. JONES,
3ª Humboldt, 515, México.

LITERATURA
L. GARZA Y MORA,
Matamoros.

TEMPERANCIA
ISABEL M. HASKINS,
Guadalajara.

J. L. B.
Rec'd. 8-28-97
Ans'd 9-15

Guadalajara, August 20, 1897.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D. D.,
Boston, Mass.,

Dear Brother:-

Dr. H. B. Pratt, the author of the "modern" version of the Spanish Bible, is much distressed because our Mission, which has been the "most outspoken in favor of the new version", has taken no steps toward the appointment of a member of the committee of revision. I myself think it would be a great pity should the committee organize and begin work, as it probably will do very soon now, without including a representative of our denomination. It is not to be expected that we can secure just such representation as we would be glad to have, but it would not seem wise, on that account, to let the whole matter go by default. As I wrote in my las I am sure that one of our number could take up this work without entailing any extra expense and without seriously neglecting his present work. I was surprised that the Mission out the whole matter off on the Board, without even recommending anyone; but I suppose that it was done in the hope that we might thus secure the reenforcement that we have wanted for several years. I suppose that the continued difficulty in financial matters will preclude the possibility of that, so I would urge upon your attention the appointing of some one of our number to act with this committee of revision I had supposed that Dr. Eaton, when he was at the rooms, would push the matter, as Dr. Pratt is a relative of his wife, and he himself was chairman of the committee of the "Assembly" that arranged for the a pointment of this committee for revision.

The circular letter, voting on the disirability of Mrs. Crawford's returning to the work, has not yet come back to me; but I presume you may hav already heard from several of our number about the matter. It will not b easy to get a perfectly unbiased expression of opinion onthe matter (if indeed such a thing is possible under any circumstances). We all have a gre respect and regard to Mrs. Crawford, are sorry for her in her very difficul situation, and do not doubt she would do faithful and efficient work, in spite of the difficulties she would encounter in the care of her children. On the other hand, while she would aid the work, she could not do much to relieve us in regard to caring for the work. Our principal difficulty just now is in regard to the Sonora field, but were she to go, she would need a native at least to carry on the services, so that the only gain would be that the work would be better done than it otherwise would be. I had supposed that she was anxious to return and had made application; but in a recent letter to me about other matters, she speaks of being "willing" to "help out for a time", though she does not know what she can do with the children. You will understand that I do not in the least oppose her appointment, but have thought it my duty to call your attention to these points.

Two of the Crawford children are buried here, and the graves have been rented instead of being bought, owing to different circumstances. Of course this is unsatisfactory, and now that the City has opened a new cemetery in which it has made a concession of a section reserved for the American Colony, it seems desirable that all the six children of the missionaries be moved. We expect to remove our two, and I think the Bissells will have us move theirs also, but Mrs. Crawford has not the means of paying the fifty dollars (Mexican) that the single grave will cost. The rapid rise in exchange is cutting down the expenditure for this mission, so would it be possible to allow us to take twenty-five dollars (American) to secure the transfer of the remains of the two Crawford children?q

We are all well and the work on the whole progresses satisfactorily.

Sincerely and cordially,

John Howland

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MEXICANA

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Matamoros.

TEMPERANCIA
ISABEL M. HASKINS,
Guadalajara.

294

7-2-98
2-4-99

Guadalajara, Mexico, June 17, 1898.

Rev. J. L. Barton, D.D.,
Boston, Mass.,

Dear Brother:-

I know that I have been much at fault in regard to correspondence, especially with headquarters. I have had more on my hands than I could do properly, and instead of overworking myself in the attempt to do it all, I have fallen into the habit of neglecting some part 6 it that was the least urgent, with the natural result that some of the most important lines have been dropped simply because they do not force themselves on my attention as persistently as some of the others.

We have been planning for a year to have a combined Convention of Societies of Christian Endeavor, Epworth Leagues, and the National Sunday School Association. As the Endeavorers initiated the movement, most of the responsibiltty and work of making the arrangements has fallen on me, as president of the National Society. The Convention meets July seventh to eleventh, in Toluca, the capital of the State of Mexico. We hope to form a permanent Federation of the young people's societies. perhaps including the Sunday School organization; each body retaining its individual organization but working together in as many ways as possible, especially in the line of local unions and yearly Conventions. Although our meetings are very insignificant as compared with the mammouth meetings at home, they are growin so that we are already seriously considering the possibility of securing a large tent. for the churches are all too small and the Mexican theatres are not suited to the work we want especially to do. for we always endeavor to make the spiritual effect the chief point. The numerical growth has not been as large this year as last, owing in part to the change in secretary, the present one having proved very much less efficient than Mrs. Eaton. who held the office for the first two years.

Our paper has been the organ of the National Society for three years, This has been, in some respects, an advantage as it gave the paper a somewhat wider circulation; but it was also a disadvantage, as it put us under obligations to introduce a good deal of matter that was of passing and limited interest, instead of leaving us free to devote ourselves to producing a paper that should have a permanent evangelical value. It is probable that a new paper will be started in the interests of the young people's societies, before the opening of the new year. Just what it will be wise for us to do in that case, is a point on which we are not wholly clear. Our paper has, undoubtedly, done an especial and important work, not merely for the denomination but for the Cause in general, and it would, we believe, be a distinct loss to have it suspend. On the other hand, there are about twenty evangelical papers in the country, sustained at the expense of a good deal of money and a large amount of time and effort. None of these are able to attract the attention of the public in general because the are ~~so~~ limited in funds; so that each becomes the "organ" of a Mission instead of some one or more being able to become the exponent of evangelical thought and the servant of its especial needs. There would be a possibility that by suspending our own and uniting in the support of the one published by the Presbyterians, we should open the way for a condensation and a concentration of effort that would be most beneficial to the Cause in general. At our Annual Meeting we appointed a committee to confer with the Presbyterians on the subject, to see what can be done. The principal danger will be that , as our paper has been managed on very different principles as regards expenditure, we shall produce no important effect on their publication and thus our efficacy on the work in general will be lost.

Soon after my appointment as the representative of the denomination in the committee of revision of the Spanish Bible, as no one else made any move, in virtue of having a member of the executive committee of the "Assembly" that provided for the appointing of this committee, I took it on myself to call the committee together. We met in San Luis Potosi, the first of December, organized and adopted some general rules forwork, and agreed to take up the first seven chapters of Matthew, each sending to each of the others his suggestions on the passage; the intention being to then hold another meeting and arrange for pushing forward the work. But Dr. Pratt, the maker of the translation, and the Bible Society are suspicious of the committee, fearing (and with a good deal of reason) that it will propose many and important ~~chang~~ changes in the translation: and the members of the committee, on their part, having been appointed at the request of the Society, feel that they should have entire liberty to follow their conscience and judgment, and that it is not worth their while to take time from other ~~work~~ duties, with the probability that a very large part of their work will be thrown aside because not acceptable to Dr. Pratt. I sent out my work in March, and four more have sent theirs. I hope that the other four members of the committee will soon send their suggestions, so that we can have an informal meeting at the Toluca Convention. I shall do all that I can to conciliate the differences of opinion, but must confess that I am not very sanguine as to the final success of the work. I much fear that there are not as yet Mexicans or Spaniards that have the linguistic attainments, the critical ability, and the intelligently evangelical sympathies that will enable them to do the work in a way that shall be permanently satisfactory; and I do not believe that we foreigners have any place in such work except as helpers and advisors. I am afraid that Dr. Pratt is going to demonstrate anew the fact, that men are so slow to learn, that unless a man has faith enough in his work to turn it over to the world, he will lose it all at last. He seems determined not to let go of it, and if he does not, I much fear that it will be "buried" with him, though it is, in my opinion, worthy of a better fate. I have put a good deal of time into this work (though not the two hours a day, called for by the original project) believing it to be my duty to do all in my power to make the work a success, as well as my privilege to do work that was so helpful as well as enjoyable to me personally.

I hardly know how to answer your questions about publications, for I do not know how much is legitimately included in the "number of pages printed"; what constitutes a "page", and whether the reference is to evangelical work alone, or whether it would include all the work done. Of our paper, we print about 275,000 pages in the year; of the Adventist's paper, about 100,000; then we print a great many cards of invitatonn, programs, letter-heads, etc., etc. Of these sundries there must be at least 30 or 40,000 in the course of a year. Our paper is now in its twelfth year, and we print nearly nine hundred copies which go to almost every Spanish-speaking country in the world either to subscribers or as an exchange. It probably is not all prejudice that makes me believe that it is more copied from than almost any other paper of its kind, though this is, very likely, owing to the fact of its contents being varied and its articles being intentionally short. Its effect can not be estimated. Certainly, in theory, to get the eye of a thousand or more of readers and many of them leaders of opinion, is vastly more effective than to preach to a hundred people who have little intercourse with the rest of the world.

There are many points that I would like to take up, but I must reserve them till another time (which I will try and not let be a very future one) for it is important that I call your attention to the matter of our Training School. The Educational Society is trying to sell the buildings at El Paso, and will probably succeed in doing so soon, as they have practically promised to give the proceeds toward an industrial plant at San Rafael, and the friends of the latter project are in charge of the sale. For myself, I see little if any validity in the arguments brought against having the School on that side of the river; and I think that the School has been, on the whole, remarkably successful, more so than that of any other Mission in this country. I have written to Mr. Eaton and will write to other members of the Mission, to see if they still maintain their position expressed in the vote "not to recommend to the Board the purchase of the property in El Paso." I think that was done

Sociedad Unida Mexicana

PRESIDENTE
JUAN HOWLAND,
Guadalajara.

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LITERATURA
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TEMPERANCIA
ISABEL M. HASKINS,
Guadalajara.

with the idea that the Educational Society would not probably do anything definite about the sale of the buildings; andperhaps it might be modified now. I do not see how we can carry on the School in some other place, unless we can have the other man to take the place of Mr. Case; or unless we abandon work in El Paso and Juárez. As a matter of fact, the Society that withdrew from the combination first of all, before, indeed, anything definite was done, is the one that has reaped the greatest benefit from the institution, for the Home Missimary Society has several good men working for it who got most of their preparation from the School, but I do not see that this is of any weight as an argument against the continuance of the School by the Board. Do you think there would be any probability of the Board's buying the property should the Mission favor the purchase? The buildings cost about ten thousand dollars, but I have the impression that they could be bought by the Board for six or seven or even for five thousand, and that they probably could be sold again without much loss. I have written Mr. Ashmun, of the Home Missionary Society, to do us the favor to wait a few weeks before making any attempt to sell, that we may give him a definite answer.

I enclose the estimates for next year and the report from this station. As we voted to print the station reports, I had not supposed that these reports were to be sent to you, but Mr. Wright informs me that they should go. We are printing the reports here, sandwiching them in between other work. I hope to have them done in a few days.

The waraffects us very little. President McKinley's reference to Texas stirred this whole country and turned the tide, which had been rather fluctuating, strongly against the Americans, but it has affected us personally very little if at all.

Sincerely,

John Howland

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Rec'd 8-23-98
Ans'd 12-27-

1 Copy

Guadalajara, Mexico, August 15, 1898.

Rev. J.L.Barton. D.D...
Boston. Mass..

Dear Sir:-

In regard to the matter of the Training School at El Paso. Mr. Wright made a motion that the School be permanently located there. with a view to getting an expression of opinion. In the replies. only one voted in the negative. and I think that his reason for doing so was found wholly in the word "permanently", for I know that he is in favor of the School's continuing there for the present. One voted in the affirmative substituting "for the present" for "permanently"; and all the rest voted inconditionally in the affirmative. though I presume that others as well as myself understand "permanently" as meaning that we see no good and sufficient reason for changing the location at present. but would not bind ourselves not to favor change should such reason be presented.

In regard to paying rent for the buildings now occupied. one is decidedly opposed. considering the demand as unjust. the money having been given with the idea that the buildings be used just as they are at present. and the fact that the Educational Society withdrew from the arrangement which was made use of as an argument in raising the money for the buildings. would not give them the right to charge rent to the other parties to the agreement. I think that the rest of the Mission. while doubting the real justice of the claim. recognize the clear legal right. and favor the payment of rent. The only question that would come up is in regard to the way in which the money is to be obtained. As we had great difficulty in arranging the appropriations for next year. it would be a practical impossibility for us to get even a nominal amount out of the total already agreed upon. for if we were obliged to introduce anything more. we could only do so by suspending the School. and then we should. ourselves. have no use for the building. So. if you can give the money as an extra for this Mission. the Mission approves: otherwise. I can see no alternative than to go on as at present. with the understanding that the Educational Society will go forward and sell the buildings or rent them toother parties , leaving us in the use of them meanwhile. Or. if they would not consent to this latter point we should have to "vacate".

As Mr. Wright intends to open for the new term the first of September. it will be necessary that you communicate directly with him. as soon as possible.

Sincerely John Howland

DEC 9 1899

DEC 16 1899

Agiobampo, Sonora, México
November 21. 1899

Rev. J. L. Barton. D. D.,
Boston, Mass.:

Dear Sir and Brother:—

In obedience to a vote of the mission, I have been making a somewhat extended visit to the field occupied by Mr. Bissell during the past eight years; this being the first time that any of the other missionaries has seen the field.

The journey from Guadalajara to El Fuerte was a varied one and could hardly be called easy. After a few hours by train, followed two days (of eighteen hours each), and a half by stage, two days on horse-back, six in a steamer on the Pacific, and two in Mr. Bissell's road-wagon.

I will send you a copy of my report to the mission, as it may help you to understand the situation.

It seems to me to be of the utmost importance that some one be appointed to our Mission as soon as possible. It would be very desirable if the new man could attend our annual meeting in Chihuahua, in April, returning here with Mr. Bissell so as to visit the field with him. At all events, we beg you to do all in your power to secure the appointment of someone before Mr. Bissell leaves, which will, I suppose, be in June.

Guadalajara, Aug. 15, 1898

I understand that there is no possibility of th question being raised whether some one will b sent or not. It is not a question of expense for we only ask that Mr. Bissell's place be taken. Indeed, it will doubtless result in a very considerable reduction in the appropriati for our Mission, for the Bissells have a large family, which the new man would not hav

When Mr. Case retired from the work, th Board failed to fill his place. While we regretted the failure to do so, we did not feel so badly about it as we should in the prese case, for we did not really care to continue a man at Batopilas: but this field certain *must* be held, and any delay might be disastrous in many ways. I am sure th entire Mission agrees with me in this.

I hope Mrs. Howland has written you abou our Christian Endeavor Convention and the formation of a new church in San Miguel.

Can you not make your plans to be wit us in Chihuahua in April?

With kindest regards, and prayers that you may be directed in all and especially in the selection of a new worker for this very important field,

Sincerely and cordially,

John Howland.

Mrs. Sara B. Howland

297 — 301

Guadalajara Mexico
Jan 29 - 1891

ev. N. G. Clark
Dear Sir

I enclose today a little sketch
f one of the members of our church who
has been called up Higher. If you
hink best I should be glad to have
t put in the Herald - as many who
e interested in this field ask why we
do not write oftener for the magazines.

Our work goes on quietly, but there
reason for encouragement in the fact
hat twenty five members were received
nto our church here - during the past year,
a larger number than ever before.

The school also is growing rapidly
and we have been obliged to refuse applica-
tions; having no more room for boarders.
At present there are nineteen boarders
nd forty five on the roll as day scholars.

Miss Haskins is very anxious for an assistant from the U. S. and the time seems to be approaching when the school should be opened on a large scale. We hope the Committee will consider the matter should the right person come forward to offer her servic

Mr. Howland will write soon givin particulars in regard to the chapel pu We are having a great deal of troubl because the government is bound to k us from building on our site, but w hope to win.

The case of Valdivia against Howland demanding pay for past work in press been decided in our favor, much to our relief and gratitude.

We are all well, and our little girls rapi growing - they are a great joy in our home

Yours most sincerely
Sara B. Howlan

Guadalajara, Jan. 29, 1891
Rec'd Feb. 6

Guadalajara Mexico
Sept 1st 1891

Rev. N. G. Clark
Dear Sir

You have heard nothing from us for so long that I am constrained to write to you to day, fearing that it will be long before my husband will find the time. He is really overwhelmed with care now; masons, stone cutters and carpenters surrounding the house at all hours, the printer constantly calling for more "original" while the workers who come in with reports, and the church members with their daily troubles and difficulties, wait till they can find an unoccupied moment. I sometimes put in my hat in despair and start for the chapel to see if I can induce him

to come home to dinner. But we are v
thankful to be able to go on with the
work, and are anxious to push ahead a
fast as possible. It is only three mon
since the work was begun, and the
walls are done and plastered out-s
and in - to prevent possible damage f
the rains - and the masons are now
at work upon the tower. We have
enough money in hand to roof the
building, and the furnishings can
wait - if we are not able to finish n
It was necessary to build at once if
would win the fight about the site an
we have faith that we shall be able
to finish. My husband will one
day give you the details of the tro
with the government - but it is suff
for to day, to say that we think
there will be no more trouble.
We can see that people have change
their tactics, and now instead of threa

we have many offers to buy the property as it stands. Some have said it would make a fine house for their "exercises" or a place of retreat for fasting, prayer and self torture, but we shall hold fast to our original plan - to keep it for a house of the true God in the midst of an idolatrous city.

Only this morning an American who has just come from St. Paul said to us, "How did you ever secure such a site in this city?" and we could only tell him that it seemed to be the will of the Lord, for it was He alone who changed the hearts of the rulers. -- If the funds were sufficient to keep on with the work we could probably be ready for dedication by New Years - but we hope that next year will surely bring an end to the work, and find us in our new and tasteful building. . .

We have been making quite extensive changes in arrangements for school and mission work, with a view to increased usefulness as well as decreased expense. We have long felt that Miss. Haskins needed to be in a house by herself - because the crowd of visitors who must go to a mission house make it very unsettling for a school. We felt that she would not be happy alone, and so kept her with us as long as we could, but the time came when we felt a change necessary.

An American friend who was about to leave a pleasant, little house was able to secure it for us - even though the owner is a priest, with the sole stipulation that there should be no school in it. This seemed to be just the thing for our family, so we moved here the first of June, leaving Miss. Haskins with the school alone in the large house, to close the ~~year~~ term during the two months of "notice" before we could leave. In the mean time we set to work to find a place for school, which is always a difficult task, but at last we succeeded in getting a house from a liberal man who was willing we should take down a partition and make other necessary changes. The house is old and is not in good repair, but it is on a good corner, near chapel and mission house, and it has good possibilities, so we felt it to be very desirable to rent it for the present. Under the present arrangement we save twenty dollars rent a month — making it possible to change and repair as may be necessary.

Now the great need is that a companion be sent just as soon as possible to share Miss Haskins work. I am very glad to see, by your recent letter to her, that you also see the great necessity of her having some one with her.

Even in the short time she has been by her self she has been troubled with sleeplessness, indigestion, dizziness and various symptoms which we are sure would be removed if she had regular meals and a pleasant companion. A person living alone gets to be careless about having regular, well cooked meals - and when we add to that, Miss Haskins "hygienic" principles - that meat - yeast bread - sugar, salt, eggs, milk, &c. are not desirable foods - a very scant diet - is the result in our estimation. At our table she would often take a plate of good chicken broth, a bit of broiled steak - a muffin or a graham slice when she would never have had it made for herself. A companion who had some "carnal" longings and who would do some good cooking - would change the aspect of things wonderfully, and delight the girls of the boarding department who love Miss Haskins - but who long for the "flesh pots" of the Mexican schools - and do not take kindly to graham mush.

Miss Haskins will be a very pleasant companion - of kindly disposition and thoughtful of the wishes of others - and will have a hearty welcome for any one who may be sent. I do not think she knows of any personal friend who could be gotten to come, and will be glad to see any one selected by you.

Some one of superior education and good executive ability would be very desirable, as Miss Haskins feels that her mother may need her presence at home before many years and that some one should be preparing herself to take the direction of the school when that time comes.

If some one could be ready to come before the New Year, it would be very gratifying to us all.

Surely there are those whose hearts will impel them to come. We feel that our need is more imperative than even that of Chihuahua, as our school is much larger. The term closed with fifty four pupils and we have had applications for more. The Baptists have appointed two ladies for their school here, one is now here and the other on the way, both well educated and of several years experience in Mexican work.

There are to be various changes in the Baptist field - a new missionary, Mr. Goldsmith and wife having recently come. Mr. Wilson and wife leave here in about two weeks. He goes away very much disheartened in regard to the Mexican work. His church, being composed mostly of disaffected members of the Meth. church, has given him a great deal of trouble and his congregation has not increased lately. Work that is not well grounded is sure to give trouble some time, tho' it swells the list to receive large numbers at a time.

During the year, from April 1st 1890 to March 31st 1891 there were nineteen members received ~~to~~ in Guadalajara, making our church ~~now~~ number at the end of March, eighty members.

Yesterday morning we sent our first student, Eugenio Rodriguez, to the training school in Juarez. He is from Tlajomulco where he leaves his wife and two children. We hope the year's study will be of great benefit to him, and be a stimulus to others.

My own summer has been entirely given up to a sick baby who found it very hard to get through the heat and dampness of her second summer. As we lost our little Margarita at this time of the year, from the same disease which threatened this baby we were very much alarmed. I gave up my time to the care of her, passing hours out in the gardens when there was sunshine, and God has blessed us by restoring her to health. Now the cooler days have come and we are sure she will grow stronger. It does me good to see her run about, merry and full of play again, and I have heart to gather up the scattered threads and try to do something again. I trust her little life may one day be a blessing to the world. My own health has improved greatly by so much out of door exercise and I am very well indeed.

We have felt with you the constant sorrow which comes from the loss of such a noble and promising son as yours. Our own darlings were early taken from us, and how much keener the sorrow when there are years of loving memories to be revived at every point in the home life.

But we know that the keener the sorrow the more deep and tender is the consolation - and know you are able to be always "glad" because God's will is done.

I might write much more, but perhaps you can get some idea of our present situation from so slight a sketch. We never expect to see great results, but there are signs of progress in many directions.

--- I should not like to have the "food question" referred to in any way that would leave Mrs. Hawkins to feel that we would criticise her but I felt that if you had a better idea of the situation it might help in the selection of a suitable companion, which, as you say, must be a very delicate and trying task.

Let us hope that the Lord has prepared the right one, and that she will come speedily.

With regards to all.

Sincerely yours

Sarah B. Howland

Guadalajara Sept. 7. /88

Recd Sept. 21. /88

Guadalajara Mexico
Dec 30 - 1892

Rev. N. G. Clark

Dear Sir: -

I do not feel as if I can begin the New year without writing to thank you for my part of the Thanksgiving and Christmas gift that came to our Mission in the person of Miss White.

I am afraid we have often treated you as many good people do the Lord - continually presenting "petitions" and failing to give thanks for mercies received, and as I regard Miss White in the light of a private and particular "Mercy" to me, it would be most ungrateful if I did not give thanks for her.

I do not think we had been together five minutes before we became fast friends, and during the past month we have enjoyed so much together - that we look forward with the keenest pleasure to the prospect of long association in mission work.

I can hardly explain the joy I feel in finding Miss White exactly what she is

The love of a common Cause is enough to make it possible to work with those who are not what we would have chosen, but where we find, in addition, that unexplainable sympathy of tastes and feelings that makes life such a different thing - it is a blessing for which to thank the Lord!

I hope I may be pardoned for feeling that there are no people quite like those from New England! I felt sure, from the very beginning that Miss. White was the person I had always wanted - and as soon as she came, I saw I had not been mistaken in the impression.

We were particularly fortunate in being able to have a most delightful week together in the City of Mexico - soon after her arrival. My mother and Cousin were very anxious that I should take a week's "vacation" with them in Mexico, and we all felt that it would never be easier for Miss. White to leave, and that it would be helpful if we could make a "tour of inspection" among the mission schools, before deciding about our own new property.

We went down to Puebla first - and went all over the fine school buildings owned by the Northern Methodists. They are situated in a central part of the city - and are very attractive as well as admirably suited to the purpose. The school rooms are large and well ventilated and the general "apparatus" is better than in any other school we saw.

The teachers have a beautiful suite of rooms, and everything about the place seemed well arranged - making an attractive spot to which scholars would be *drawn*.

In Mexico, the Methodists have a similar building, arranged on much the same plan. With large dormitories, dining rooms, plenty of water and conveniences for bathing the work of caring for a large school is reduced to a minimum, and as there was, in every case, a responsible matron, the teachers had time to devote themselves exclusively to the work of teaching.

The Presbyterian school was much the same, large, well arranged, attractive, and Miss. White and I could not but feel how *limited* our crowded school room and dormitories with three and four children in one bed - made us. *feel*. We enquired very particularly in regard to the most approved "methods"; first, work of girls, courses of study, clothing, rules of discipline &c and feel that we gained much valuable information. I feel that Miss White is exactly the person to carry out many needed reforms in our school, and I am sure she will work wonders if she has the necessary funds. She is thoroughly practical in her views, but believes that to do the best work, one should have the materials best suited to the purpose, and I most heartily agree with her.

Let me say here, that she is doing remarkably well with the language and is going to pronounce muy claro, as the Mexicans say. She perseveringly read signs and bills and tickets and notices during all our journey and quite delighted me with her readiness to understand and remember.

Of course we visited Chapultepec, the Museum, the Shrine of Guadalupe and other noted places, met nearly all the missionaries and had a most delightful week. As we met the conductor of our Guadalajara branch, on our return, we were amused to hear him exclaim, "Why Mrs. Howland I have not seen you looking so young since I knew you. You have lost your "ministerial air!"

My good husband labored faithfully to take care of our three babies during my absence and I found them well and happy.

He is looking in all directions for Mission property, but finds it extremely difficult to buy, as all of the most desirable sites are owned by priests — or connected in some way with the Church.

It seems desirable to have our school and church property as near together as possible, but the fine sites spoken of by Dr Webb are not to be obtained.

We are looking forward with the greatest interest to the dedication of our church Jan 14th when we hope to have the comfort and inspiration of the presence of so many of our Mission Circle. It will give us great pleasure to welcome Dr. Whitcomb and his wife, and hope nothing will prevent their coming.

I need not tell you how we are enjoying the visit of my mother and her cousin. It is five years since I had seen her, and it seems so pleasant to have her in our home.

With many thanks and cordial salutations

Sincerely yours

Sara B. Howland.

Mrs. E. H. Howland.

Dec. 30 1892

Guadalajara.

Danielsonville Conn
June 16 - 1894

Rev. N. G. Clark D. D.
Boston - Mass.

My dear Dr. Clark:-

I want to tell you that I am safe in my dear old home at last, with the three little ones, and am very thankful that the long journey was so easily accomplished.

[It was very fortunate for me that Dr. Daniels was willing to let me accompany him, for it was a great comfort to feel that there was some one to look out for me. Dr. Daniels was so kind and thoughtful and took such excellent care of us in every way that the long journey was taken with comparative ease, and we reached home far less tired than we expected to be.

His presence at our Annual Meeting was a great inspiration, and all seemed to feel that he gave us just the needed stimulus.

I think that rather of a discouraged feeling would have run through the meeting, without his cheery influence. It was natural that each should bring forward his peculiar trials and his difficult problems for solution, and as one after another unrolled his burden, it seemed as if we had undertaken too difficult a task upon our shoulders.

Just at the right moment Mr. Daniels suggested that we look at the other side a while, and reminded us that we had merely found in Mexico the same social problems that had not been solved in the United States, in spite of years of education and Christian influence.

In fact, human nature is the same

everywhere, and I am convinced that our native Christians will compare very favorably with the Christians in most of our home churches.)

On the whole, we had a very interesting and inspiring meeting, and I am sure we all gained new strength for the coming year.

It is delightful to meet old friends and renew pleasant acquaintances, and these months will give me a great deal to think of in the coming years, but I see already that I could never be satisfied to remain at home.

I should think many of the people I meet would be weary of their lives with no aim, and the ceaseless round of social life.

We have just enough of it in Mexico to make a pleasant change, but the exacting demands of mere formality are very wearisome.

What I shall enjoy most will be the delicious air of my country home, the green fields - the fine "Free Library", the inspiring contact with cultivated people and the chance to gain new ideas to be put into practice, in a small scale in my Mexican home.

I want to see you sometime when we can talk over matters quietly.

I am so sorry that you feel as if you must give us up to a new "Secretary", dear Dr. Clark. I know that no one can ever fill your place in our hearts. How can any one understand the situation as you do? It will be impossible.

I hear that Miss. White has safely reached her friends in Denver, and that my husband has arrived at his lonely home in Guadalajara. I hope it will not be very long before he can join us.

With cordial greetings

Very sincerely yours

Sara B. Howland

Danielsonville, June 16, 1894
Rec'd June 19

J. L. B.
Rec'd 6-10-96
Ans'd 9-23

Mrs. John Howland 30 B
Sanitarium
Battle Creek
June 8-1896

r. J. L. Barton:
1 Somerset St
Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:-

Your kind letter was received this morning and I am very glad to be able to say that our little girl is gaining all the time.

She is now able to be wheeled about in a chair, and as she stood alone a few moments yesterday, I trust she will soon be walking again.

She was taken sick in March, and kept growing

weaker until it did not see
as if she could live fro
day to day. When it was
decided by a council of
physicians that an operat
for water on the lung
would be necessary, it
seemed best to take he
where it could be performe
with the least possible ris
Mexican physicians are
not up to-date in their
antiseptic precautions an
we have known recently o
at least three cases of bl
poisoning resulting from
simple hypodermic injecti
and we could not risk
child's life, when, at the
best, there is some dange
of suppuration of the lung

We decided on Sunday night that we would undertake the journey, and on Tuesday, May 19th we started.

It was a most anxious trip until we reached El Paso, for one of our great difficulties had been that she positively refused any nourishment, and food had to be forced upon her, like medicine. After tasting of the good milk at Mr. Wright's, so different from what we are able to get in Mexico, she said, "Please don't buy that bad kind any more" and from that time she never refused to take food, and began to rally at once.

By the time we reached
Kansas City she wanted
to go to "church" (we stopp
there over Sunday) and wa
carried in her father's arm
to hear Mr. Hopkins!
She grew stronger every tim
and when we finally reach
our journey's end, Mr. Kellog
said that absorption had
begun and we would wa
A few days later he said
it was going on so rapidl
that we did not need an
operation at all.
She had gained strength
enough to wait until the
water could be absorbed
naturally, and, of course, th
was infinitely better than
the operation.
This is to explain how
we left our field so sudde

for an operation, and finally
did not have it at all!

Mr. Howland staid only
a few days as it was
necessary for him to be
at the Christian Endeavor
Convention at Zacatecas.
He will be starting home-
ward to day if all is well,
and will, I am sure, write
you as soon as he reaches
Guadalajara.

I was very sorry not to
be able to entertain Mr.
and Mrs. Clark in my
home, as I had planned
to do what I could to
make their visit pleasant,
but we cannot have
all the good times at
once, and I cannot but
be very thankful that God

has spared the life of me ch

Having left my field
such an abrupt manne
I would now like to
ask you to "ease my mi
by giving me permission
to stay until my little
one's health is fully
restored. I do not mea
to break any of the Boa
wise and excellent rules,
but it seemed necessary
to do so this time for w
could not wait to consult

I am invited to remai
here, at this beautiful
Sanitarium, as the gue
of Dr. Kellogg - who is
the founder of the Adv
Mission in Guadalajara

He has appreciated ev
courtesies shown their missi

in Guadalajara where they me strangers, and now repays them a hundred fold." We have all the institution affords of medical aid, most excellent board, a pleasant little suite of rooms and the kindest attentions from all. I am urged to take this opportunity for "tonic treatment" myself, in order that I may be better fitted for future work.

We have had the pleasantest of relations with these missionaries and have union services on Sunday too, in which they are well represented. They are most excellent Christian people and are doing well in their Medical Mission. As they

have sent their trained nurse
in time of sickness, to us i
Guadalajara and share
with us the privileges of
their Sanitarium ~~in Guad.~~ these
as far as we will accept,
I have wondered if a wo
of appreciation from you
officially, to Dr Kellogg
would not be very gratifyin

Another missionary of the
Am. Board - a Mr. Pettibone forme
of China is here, an aged
man who is very much broke

I believe that the spirit
of Christian unity which
has come to be a "characteris
- of the work in Guadalaja
is going to do wonders f
the Lord's work by and b

Strangers have said to m
"We were told that there w
such harmony among the

Americans, and such a pleasant social atmosphere that we decided to go to Guadalajara". We have been very much favored in the representatives of all the Boards in our city, and our Monday afternoon union prayer meetings for the Christian workers have been most helpful and stimulating. Before we left, and during all our journey we were upheld by the special prayers of our brethren in the work, and their kindness has been wonderful. The Lord has given us more than we could ask or even think. As we rolled away from the station that morning, laden with everything that could brighten our journey, with a crowd of friends waving us good bye, I said

to my husband, "If we
never come back with our
child, yet we come home
joyful hearts as we thin
of the *friends* to comfort u

I shall hope to visit
my parents in Hamilton
and, if possible, see you
all in Boston for a day.
With kindest regards to
all the good friends in
the Congregational Hous
who may be interested i
our welfare, I am

Yours very sincerely.

Sara B. Howlan

Mr. John Howland
Care Dr. J. H. Kellogg
Battle Creek
Mich.